Daily Report

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Cuba

Continuing Coverage of Reaction to Bush Plan

Congress Finds Plan Unsatisfactory

FL0709154089 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2230 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] U.S. President George Bush has proposed the coordination of efforts to face drug consumption in the United States; however, his plan does not completely satisfy congressmen, experts, and citizens.

Representative Charles Rangel criticized the White House's proposal for financing its antidrug plan with the funds of other social funds and urged a small tax increase, which the people will understand.

Senator Edward Kennedy suggested that the expenses for the antidrug policy can be covered with the gigantic budget assigned to the Department of Defense. President Bush wants to build 132 invisible B-2 bombers. However, only with the money it costs to build 2 of those planes can the antidrug fight be financed this year.

A young American said on television that what is really needed is money to create employment, housing, and other social benefits.

Antidrug Plan 'Weak'

FL0709181689 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Drug consumption and trafficking has made evident a fundamental fact: rich and poor countries need to establish true cooperation to solve the problem. Neither the rich nor the poor countries can do this by themselves. The antidrug war can only be won with a broad, concerted, international effort and with specific and viable programs in each country.

This is why we believe the antidrug plan of U.S. President George Bush is weak. In addition to being insufficient, as the U.S. Democrats believe, it is based on a repressive orientation which is not new and has not proven to be effective, as French authorities have noted.

Most importantly, the Bush plan does not address the causes. As far as we know, these kinds of wars have never and will never be won by force. The key is not in waging a war exclusively against traffickers and producers, and in being more severe with consumers. The key is mainly in attacking the causes that favor and bring about this entire situation.

There will always be a producer as long as there is one drug consumer in the world. There will always be drug consumers, producers, and traffickers as long as the causes that encourage one and the other are present.

If the U.S. President's antidrug plan is not substantially rerouted in that direction, it may end with consumers, traffickers, and producers now, but nothing will guarantee that they will not reappear tomorrow. This would be nothing more than a vicious circle, a clumsy way of pouring sand into a bag full of holes.

The essence of this struggle is in the type of relations that could be developed between rich and poor nations and in establishing the causes that originate the existing situation in one place and the other. We will talk about this tomorrow.

Bolivian Dissatisfaction Noted

FL0709203389 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1939 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Bolivian reactions to the new antidrug policies proposed by the United States are characterized by official reports and a general commission statement saying that the sums of economic assistance are not enough.

In turn, various sectors in Bolivia have reiterated their rejection of having U.S. military intervention in Bolivia to fight drug traffickers.

Guillermo Capobianco, minister of the interior, said that the U.S. plan unevenly distributes financial assistance between the antidrug campaigns in the United States and the sums it is reserving to assist Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia. He added that, of the $7.9 billion President George Bush spoke of, only $2 billion will be to assist these three countries.

Panama's Rodriguez Grants TV Interview

FL0709190589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Fragments of "exclusive" interview with Provisional Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez by special correspondent to Panama, Nelson Notario Castro, in the Palacio de las Garzas. Date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Notario] Do you think this country can improve its relations with the United States?

[Rodriguez] Look, I have always believed that [words indistinct] country, our people have never been enemies of the U.S. people. They have no reason to be enemies of the U.S. people, just like the U.S. people have no reason to be enemies of the Panamanian people.

What we have also expressed is that, at all times, the cordiality that must prevail between the two peoples must be based mainly on respect, on the acceptance of both countries' domestic models and conditions, on noninterference, on the knowledge and respect for their problems and weaknesses—mainly the love for dignity and for sovereignty. So, under those principles, there is no reason why there should not be cordiality and an improvement in the relations between our countries.

[Notario] Do you have a special message for the Cuban people?

[Rodriguez] Yes. In conclusion, I would like to send the Cuban people and Government a very sincere message of gratitude for the solidarity they have expressed at all times for the Panamanian cause. It is a solidarity that is evident in many ways and which has permitted us to express our truths, not only domestically, but also in international forums. Finally, this solidarity has been seen in the unconditional and unrestricted support support that Vice President Raul Castro gave in the nonaligned meeting when he presented the Panamanian cause as his own. Therefore, I give my respect, sympathy, and gratitude to the Cuban people and Government.

Casas Welcomes Combatants Returning From Angola

FL0709125689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Approximately 150 internationalists arrived last night from the People's Republic of Angola. They were welcomed by Division General Senen Casas Regueiro, alternate member of the [Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee] Politburo, other chiefs and officers of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] and Ministry of the Interior, as well as representatives from political organizations.

It is appropriate to reiterate that with this withdrawal plan of troops from Angola, Cuba continues strictly fulfilling the bipartite agreements signed in New York last December.

Out of the recently arrived, 131 of them bear the Distinguished FAR Service award; 112 the Internationalist Combatant Medal, first class and 44 the second class. In recognition for outstanding attitudes in combat, [words indistinct] bear the Raul Diaz Arguelles medal; [words indistinct] bear the Cuito Cuanavale medal; and all had the Cuba-People's Republic of Angola medal.

On this occasion, just like the first time, the fatherland became proud upon receiving a prestigious group of its best children.

Internationalists in Ethiopia To Return

FL0709120089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Starting next 9 September, the return to the fatherland of Cuban internationalist combatants who were in Ethiopia will begin. Considering that the external conditions of aggression and threat that made our presence necessary in that heroic land have favorably changed, the Cuban and Ethiopian Governments have made this decision.

At the appropriate time, an announcement will be made on the transfer to the fatherland of the remains of our combatants who fell in that brother country, in the same way that it will be done for those who fell in Angola.

Statement on Combatants

FL0709182389 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Statement issued by the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; Date and place not given]

[Text] In April 1977, in accordance with a request from the Revolutionary Government of Ethiopia, which was under attack by foreign military forces, a group of Cuban specialists and military advisors left for that country. Later, also responding to that same request, it became necessary to send combat units, who in cooperation with the courageous Ethiopian soldiers, contributed to the defeat and expulsion of the invaders.

Although most of the troops have returned since then, a small Cuban contingent remained there, which was very well trained and well equipped to provide support to Ethiopia in case of another foreign aggression. That is why for over 10 years, many thousands of Cuban combatants have fulfilled their sacred internationalist duty in that country, thus providing their modest contribution to the consolidation, development, and safety of its young revolutionary process.

Considering that the external conditions of aggression and threat that made our presence necessary in that heroic land have favorably changed, the Cuban and Ethiopian Governments have agreed that the Cuban combatants who remained in Ethiopia can now return, and they will begin returning to the fatherland starting 9 September.

At the appropriate time, an announcement will be made on the transfer to the fatherland of the remains of our combatants who fell in that brother country, in the same way that it will be done for those who fell in Angola.

Signed, Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Plane Collects Data From Hurricane Gabrielle

FL0709135589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Cuban and Soviet specialists have penetrated the epicenter of hurricane Gabrielle thus fulfilling for the 3d consecutive year scientific air missions in centers of hurricanes.

The collective took off from the Camaguey Airport aboard the plane Cyclone and entered the eye of the meteor at a point located at 910 km east/northeast from San Juan, Puerto Rico and at over 2,000 km from the [word indistinct] point. Some of the data provided by the plane's modern equipment are speed and wind direction indicators, pressure, levels of precipitation, and temperature.

Jamaica

Government, Cuba Still Negotiating Relations

FL0709133689 Bridgetown CANA in English 2304 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Sept 6, CANA— The Jamaican Foreign Ministry has denied a press report here that an offer by Prime Minister Michael Manley to resume diplomatic relations with Cuba on a non-resident ambassadorial basis was turned down by the Cuban Government.

The JAMAICA RECORD said that an announcement on the resumption of relations was scheduled to coincide with the non-aligned conference now taking place in Belgrade, but was put on hold because of the impasse.

Ben Clare, minister of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said the government was still committed to restoring diplomatic relations with Cuba but there was no set timetable.

Both governments, he said, were still negotiating and as soon as these were completed a formal announcement would be made.

Clare said that there was a communication problem because of the break in diplomatic ties by the Seaga administration in 1980. Most of the negotiations, he said, were being done through letters.

There were however still "strong links between both governments," Clare said.

The JLP government severed diplomatic relations with Cuba in 1980 after accusing Havana of harbouring fugitives from Jamaica and of interfering in Jamaica's internal affairs.

Trinidad and Tobago

Nation Condemns Actions by Panama's Noriega

FL0709212389 Bridgetown CANA in English 2112 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Sept 7, CANA—The Trinidad and Tobago Government on Thursday condemned recent political actions of military leader General Manuel Noriega.

In a statement issued by the office of Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson, the government called on Noriega to work towards elections.

The statement criticised his appointment of an interim president on Monday, saying it further jeopardised the outcome of an Organisation of American States (OAS) mission to solve the country's political crisis.

The crisis was sparked by the annulment of elections last May 7 when opposition candidates were leading.

Trinidad and Tobago's external affairs minister, Senator Dr. Sahadeo Basdeo served with the OAS mission along with the foreign ministers of Ecuador and Guatemala.

"After the annulment of the national elections in May this year, frustrating the will of the Panamanian people in selecting a government of their choice, the entire world protested at the blatant misuse of power by General Noriega as head of the Armed Forces of Panama," the statement said.

"Reports emanating out of Panama now indicate that General Noriega has appointed an interim president and vice president contrary to the Constitution provisions of that country and the manifest will of the Panamanian people.

"The outcome of the OAS mission has therefore been further jeopardised.

"Trinidad and Tobago, as a state which is firmly and proudly rooted in the democratic electoral process and tradition, condemns this cynical act of General Noriega and calls upon him to take all necessary steps, as a matter of urgency, to enable a democratic constitutional government to take office in Panama," the statement concluded.

EXPRESS Comments on Colombian Drug Lords

FL0709125189 Bridgetown CANA in English 1832 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Sept 6, CANA— The Trinidad EXPRESS said on Wednesday that a whole country was at stake and possibly the safety of Trinidad and Tobago in the current battle between drug dealers and the Colombian Government.

"Nothing less than an entire country stands as the prize," the EXPRESS said in an editorial.

"By their statement, the drug lords have made clear their intention to dominate or destroy every institution which makes a free nation.

"Should they succeed in quelling the government and removing all significant opposition to their forces, the drug lords will have won almost untrammelled power," the EXPRESS said.

"This possibility must be a cause of concern for our own country which is reputed to be the funnel for illegal drugs between South America and the U.S., for then the violence that possesses Colombia may draw far too close to our island," the editorial concluded.

Belize

PUP's Price To Form New Cabinet by 8 Sep

FL0709142889 Bridgetown CANA in English 2101 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Sept 6, CANA—The governor general of Belize, Dame Minita Gordon, on Wednesday called on the leader of the People's United Party [PUP], George Price, to form a new government.

The prime minister-designate met with the governor general in her Belmopan office two days after his party scored a narrow victory in general elections.

Following the meeting the 70-year-old Price met with defeated Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel in the prime minister's office where Esquivel handed over the reins of office.

Price told CANA that he will be forming his cabinet by Friday. He gave no indication as to who will make up his cabinet but it is widely expected that the party chairman, Said Musa or the former leader of the opposition in the House of Representatives, Florencio Marin, will be the deputy prime minister.

Price said that returning to Belmopan as prime minister made him feel that he had left office only yesterday. He said he was uncomfortable in the plush office environment which Esquivel had created for himself. He reported that his first order of business for the day was to meet with the Financial Secretary Keith Arnold. It is not clear what the two discussed.

Price's party won 15 of the 28 seats at stake in last Monday's elections. After being in power for 30 years, Price had suffered a defeat in the 1984 poll.

Cabinet Named, Sworn In

FL0709234789 Bridgetown CANA in English 2245 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, Sept 7, CANA—Following is the cabinet of the new ruling People's United Party in Belize which was announced here Thursday.

Gerald Price—Prime Minister, Minister Responsible for Finance, Defence and Home Affairs.
Ralph Fonseca—Minister of State.
Daniel Silva—Minister of State.
Florencio Marin—Deputy Prime Minister, Minister Responsible for Industry and Natural Resources.
Guadalupe Pech—Minister of State.
Said Musa—Minister of Foreign Affairs, Economic Development and Education.
Vildo Marin—Minister of State.
Carlos Diaz—Minister of Energy and Communications.
Miguel Ruiz—Minister of State.
Michael Espat—Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.
Remijio Montego—Minister of Social Services and Community Development.
Valdemar Castillo—Minister of Housing and Co-Operatives.
Glenn Godfrey—Minister of Tourism and the Environment, Attorney General.
Dr Theodore Aranda—Minister of Health and Urban Development.
Samuel Waight—Minister of Works.

The cabinet will be sworn in Friday.

Costa Rica

Cabinet Ministers Announce Resignations

Justice Minister Steps Down

PA0709215389 Paris AFP in Spanish 2140 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] San Jose, 7 Sep (AFP)—Costa Rican Justice Minister Luis Paulino Mora resigned from his post today, thus becoming the eighth minister in President Oscar Arias' original cabinet to resign for various reasons.

Mora said in his letter of resignation that he wants to step down as minister in order to obtain a position as magistrate of the Costa Rican Supreme Court.

Last week Finance Minister Fernando Naranjo resigned because of differences with the rest of the government's economic team.

Finance Minister 'May' Resign

PA0809034689 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Finance Minister Fernando Naranjo has told this radio station that he may be resigning effective 1 October. Minister Naranjo said he is thinking of stepping down from office some time between the last week of September and 1 October. Even though it had been said that Minister Naranjo would announce the date this week, he has yet to decide since he has not talked this over with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias.

Minister Naranjo said his resignation date will depend on the foreign debt negotiations under way with the commercial banks. The negotiations are being handled by Central Bank President Eduardo Lizano. Minister Naranjo is waiting for a progress report on the negotiations. The finance minister said that he will be able to decide the date for his resignation once the foreign debt talks have been defined and progress in the negotiations has been made.

According to comments made by Minister Naranjo, the appointment of his replacement will not be an easy task for President Arias. It seems that it is not easy to find a person to take over the ministry for only 7 months. Naranjo said that the best solutions would be to task another minister with the duties of the Finance Ministry or appoint the deputy foreign minister to the office of minister.

El Salvador

Reportage on Upcoming FMLN-Government Dialogue

Cristiani Comments on Talks

PA0709215589 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Interview with President Alfredo Cristiani by unidentified reporters; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Cristiani] It is not necessary [words indistinct]. This first meeting is to talk about all these things and formally begin a truly organized process. We have already said that next week's meeting will be a preliminary meeting. At that time we will prepare for the beginning of the dialogue process. Therefore, we cannot say that substantial conclusions and agreements will result from this meeting. Next week we will decide in a general sense how the process—during which important issues will be broached—will be carried out. [Words indistinct] in this case that would not be necessary.

Many people are worried because they feel that the dialogue will not work without moderators. However, representatives of 13 political parties met, without a moderator, with the FMLN and they signed a joint document. Therefore, the presence of a moderator is not really necessary. The idea is to sit down and talk and decide how the process will be carried out and [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] Will a high-ranking officer be appointed?
[Cristiani] A retired officer, the minister of the Presidency.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]
[Cristiani] No. They have not publicly suggested that. They told us they would accept any date between 10 and 14 September. It is up to us to set a specific date. They did not say the meeting had to be held on 14 and 15 September; they said it should be held between 10 and 14 September.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]
[Cristiani] Regarding the commissions, [words indistinct] appointed by the Executive Branch. We have suggested that the political parties, especially those parties that participated in the elections and continue to be recognized political parties, form an interpartisan—I can think of no other word to [words indistinct]—commission through which the government commission can keep the political parties informed of what is going on and at the same time pass on the suggestions the political parties may have to offer. We believe that we must work together. We do not plan to keep the other forces outside this process. As a matter of fact, the opposition parties have already presented their suggestion on how the process of dialogue should be held. I believe that it would be a good idea for the political parties to form a commission with which the dialogue commission can be constantly in touch to exchange ideas and build the process on more solid bases.

Leading Bishop on Dialogue

PA0709230689 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary San Salvador bishop, today said the FMLN's flexibility and willingness to resume a dialogue with the government is a positive sign. He said the FMLN's proposal yesterday to talk with a government dialogue commission at any level and immediately initiate negotiations is a significant step toward peace. He dismissed the church's participation in a dialogue commission, as the government had proposed.

[Begin Rosa Chavez recording] Of course, everything pure and leading to the increased possibility of peace through nonviolent means is great news. Nevertheless, we are in a preparatory stage. We are not sure what will come next or what will be agreed upon at a preliminary meeting. We have clearly said the church never intended to become a commission member. [end recording]

As for a mediating role, Rosa Chavez confirmed the church's willingness to help bring the sides closer to one another.

[Begin Rosa Chavez recording] The mediator has to be chosen by consensus between the opposing sides. If the archbishop is accepted by the two sides, he will be able to act as mediator. Otherwise, another person will have to be chosen. But it is important that the job be done so the people can live in peace as soon as possible. [end recording]

Asked about remarks by the Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa] denying that Air Force helicopters fired on the Santa Elena Church, Rosa Chavez reported that churchmen met with Coprefa head Major Mauricio Chavez Caceres to present the evidence of the attack.

[Begin Rosa Chavez recording] I showed the bullet marks to him. He sent his own team to inspect the place and collect information about the site. An inquiry is proceeding. This afternoon, I will have a report by a priest of the church. [end recording]

Rosa Chavez said that, after meeting separately with the FMLN and Alfredo Cristiani's government representatives, the church is aware of a desire for rapprochement between the two forces and that this is an indication of a prompt negotiated political solution of the Salvadoran conflict.

FMLN Communique on Talks

PA0709221889 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1845 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Communique on "Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front's final proposal to Salvadoran Government," released in Mexico City on 7 September—recorded]

[Text] FMLN Communique

Bearing in mind that peace is the Salvadorans' and the international community's most pressing demand and considering that the Tela agreements have established an adequate framework to initiate a dialogue and negotiating process to reach lasting peace in our country, the FMLN states that it is willing to start a definite negotiating process to end the war as soon as possible and to exert all its efforts to build a true democracy that will ensure lasting peace in El Salvador.

To this end, the FMLN:

1. Reiterates its willingness to meet with the government's delegation, whose characteristics and level will be established by the government;

2. Will give the dialogue the importance it merits by sending high-level delegates with decision-making powers;

3. Will make unilateral efforts to de-escalate the war and create a climate for negotiations;

4. Is willing to debate the prompt arrangement of a cease-fire as a priority.

With this in mind, the FMLN announces that as of 0000 on 10 September, it will suspend:

1. Electricity sabotage operations throughout the country;

2. The sabotage of telephone communications in cities;

3. The use of land mines and booby traps. Regarding fulfillment of this point, given its military complexity, the FMLN will issue a special communique with instructions.

4. Public transportation will continue to be sabotaged until the issue of increased fares is solved. However, the FMLN states that it is also willing to suspend the sabotaging of transportation and the national transportation stoppages, on the condition that the fare issue is solved.

The FMLN will maintain these unilateral actions during a sufficient and moderate period of time to allow the government and the Armed Forces to carry out the corresponding actions that will contribute to creating a serious climate for negotiations. In this sense, we demand that the government and the Armed Forces to take the following actions:

1. Immediately cease repression, stop assassinations, arrests, use of torture on political prisoners, security corps actions against demonstrations, strikes, and other people's activities. We also demand the lifting of the siege against the National University, labor union offices, and offices of other people's organizations, and an end to searches against these organizations;

2. Permit the immediate repatriation of all refugees, with no restrictions, to the places they select. To lift the siege and restrictions on the movement of people at the already established resettlements, and on the conflict areas where the Army prevents the arrival of supplies.

3. Cease the attacks on the freedom of expression in the form of assassinations, intimidation, and dismissal of newsmen, and pressure on the media in general;

4. Suspend conscription, which is carried out only among the low income sectors of the population;

5. Stop using land mines [minas de pateo] and booby traps, which have caused hundreds of casualties attributed to the FMLN. Stop bombing civilian targets and inhabited areas.

The FMLN, in turn, agrees to stop actions that directly affect the government's war economy and imbalance the Army's defensive system. The FMLN agrees to stop using such weapons as the mines that have inflicted thousands of casualties on the Army. Some of these actions have affected the population, either directly or indirectly. We demand that the government stop using repressive measures that directly affect the population and their democratic rights. We will not, however, accept as a government goodwill gesture, our war disabled leaving the country for medical treatment, if and when this departure takes place. We regard this as a basic humanitarian right subject to international accords, such as the Geneva Convention, signed and ratified by the Salvadoran state. The fulfillment of these accords has been demanded from the government by various organizations and the latest UN Human Rights Commission resolution.

As of today, we will be watching the actions of the government and the Armed Forces on the five points proposed. We invite the government and the Armed Forces to demonstrate true willingness for peace by taking the actions we have proposed and initiating a serious negotiating process to end the war.

[Signed] FMLN General Command; El Salvador, 7 September 1989

Rebels To Suspend 'Sabotage'

PA0709194689 Paris AFP in Spanish 1912 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Sep (AFP)—The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrilla group today agreed to suspend sabotage operations as a goodwill measure prior to the resumption of peace talks with the Salvadoran Government in Mexico next week.

In a last-minute communique read to a local radio station, the FMLN Command announced the suspension of sabotage operations on electricity and telephone lines and a halt to the planting of mines in battle areas.

The rebels demanded a similar gesture from the government and "an end to the repression."

The suspension of sabotage operations will be in effect as of 0000 hours on 10 September.

Cristiani Proposes Date for Talks

PA0809012289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0104 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani proposed today that the first session of dialogue with the guerrillas be held in Mexico on 12 and 13 September.

Cristiani made the proposal after swearing in the official dialogue commission that will meet with the rebels to seek a political solution to the ongoing war.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front guerrillas proposed 2 days ago that talks with the government be held in Mexico between 10 and 14 September.

The Salvadoran president said his government will present a draft amnesty decree that will allow disabled guerrillas to leave the country to obtain medical assistance abroad.

FMLN Radio Reports Attacks in Capital

PA0709123489 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0141 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Your close attention, please. Urban guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] began several actions tonight, 6 September, in the Escalon District of San Salvador. The urban guerrillas have attacked National Guard positions at Boulevard de los Heroes. At the time of this report, fighting could be heard at various points in the capital. Fighting is also taking place at the electric substation in San Ramon. We will repeat these reports: Urban guerrillas have attacked National Guard positions at Boulevard de los Heroes. Beginning at 1830, fighting could be heard on 75th Avenue South, Escalon District, and in Soyapango, Miralvalle, and San Ramon.

Another report from the capital says that beginning at 1830 today FMLN forces began harassment of an armed contingent on 81st Avenue and 83d Avenue North. The attacks were against the Central Elections Council [CSE]. We repeat: National police forces guarding the CSE were attacked beginning at 1830 and the action was still continuing at 1915. At this point in our program—1917—we have received reports saying that helicopters are flying over the capital.

A few hours ago, the FMLN carried out one of its most important military operations so far this year. Its forces wiped out a position a few kilometers from San Francisco Goteras. The commander of the Cacahuatique Battalion—a captain whose last name was Alvarado—a lieutenant, and [words indistinct] died. In addition, our forces seized important war materiel during the fighting.

These actions have included attacks on troops of the Belloso Battalion and sabotage actions in the Escalon District and La Mascota. Also, fighting has taken place at the San Antonio Abad substation.

The report says that this evening helicopters are flying over the capital, most of which has been without power since the urban guerrillas began their sabotage actions, mainly in the oligarchy's Escalon District and at other locations in the capital.

Rebels Claim Responsibility

PA0809013789 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] A new urban commando group of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has claimed responsibility for last night's incidents, particularly the attacks on the military positions at the Central Elections Council and the house of an official of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry. Here is a report by a a rebel spokesman made in a telephone call to this station:

[Begin FMLN spokesman recording] The Eros 30 June Urban Command carried out the activity called "In View of the Repression Against the Students All Must Join the Training on Use of Weapons as Our People's Only Reaction To Stop the Dictatorship's Onslaught: Onward."

This activity consisted of attacks on various Army positions in the Escalon District to give proof of our determination to wage war on the sectors which are hellbent on maintaining the current situation of injustice and repression against our people.

With this activity we made it clear that from now on we will not allow our people to be the only ones to suffer the consequences of this war of aggression, of this unjust war that has been imposed on our people. We call on all students and all of our people to turn the war fronts into revolutionary schools at which one learns to use weapons and to become conscious of the need to free ourselves from this oppressive regime once and for all. Over. [end recording]

Nicaragua

Canada, Europe Make Donations for Elections

PA0709193989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1711 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Managua, 6 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—The Spanish Government today completed delivery on 110 personal

computers donated to the Nicaraguan Supreme Electoral Council (CSE) to compile lists of eligible voters for the next election.

Miguel Angel Mazarambroz, the Spanish ambassador to Nicaragua, delivered the first 30 of the 110 computers in late August. The total cost of the computers is $400,000.

Manuel Hernandez Ruigomez and Jose Echezarreta, minister-counselor and cooperation attache of the Spanish Embassy in Managua, respectively, completed the donation by delivering the 80 remaining computers to Leonel Arguello, a CSE magistrate, fulfilling the promise that the Spanish Government made to the Sandinist regime.

Hernandez Ruigomez told ACAN-EFE that the delivery of the computers is proof of "Spain's thorough commitment to the Nicaraguan electoral process and its solidarity with the Nicaraguan people."

The Spanish diplomat underlined the importance of the Nicaraguan electoral process, which will end with the 25 February 1990 elections, and stated that Spain's help is of a "technical nature."

After receiving the Spanish Government donation, magistrate Arguello expressed thanks for this demonstration of solidarity and said that the assistance comes at the "right moment" and will help "provide more guarantees to the opposition" in the electoral process.

This technical assistance was agreed upon by Spanish Government officials and CSE President Mariano Fiallos, who in June traveled to Spain, along with Nicaraguan Magistrate Leonel Arguello.

"In Spain we found immediate solidarity, and this is being demonstrated today with the delivery of the 110 personal computers," Arguello said.

Arguello told ACAN-EFE that the FRG Government will also be sending Nicaragua computer equipment for the electoral registry, valued at $1.5 million.

Canada will donate voting equipment and private voting booths and will help to enlighten the people concerning the electoral process, a civic plan that has a total cost of $700,000.

The Swiss Government has approved a donation of $100,000 that will be used to train members of the political parties to oversee the elections. They, in turn, will train others throughout the rest of the country, Arguello added.

Sweden donated more than $300,000 for electoral ballots, ink, vehicles, and other articles needed for the elections.

Finland, for its part, has approved over $1 million in aid to help carry out the Nicaraguan electoral process, which is in the second stage of the plan established for the elections.

TV Network Gives Airtime to Political Parties

PA1709184089

[Editorial Report] Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish at 0030 GMT on 30 August broadcasts the 30-minute political parties program, which is introduced as follows: "In compliance with the agreements signed in the national dialogue and in accordance with the instructions of the Supreme Electoral Council, we broadcast the 30-minute program with political parties. This television time has been granted free by the government in an effort to contribute to the development of the Nicaraguan electoral process."

The program is divided into three 10-minute segments, with each segment devoted to a specific political party. The participating political parties in this program are the Marxist-Leninist People's Action Movement, MAP-ML, the Independent Liberal Party for National Unity, PLIUN, and the Liberal Constitutionalist Party, PLC.

The first segment features Isidro Tellez, secretary general of the MAP-ML, who, in evaluating the electoral process, states that "this electoral process has begun and is being carried out because of the interference of external forces, in this case, the Esquipulas agreement and U.S. imperialism. The electoral process is governed by bourgeoisie democratic principles and not the revolutionary nature of 19 July." He adds that the MAP-ML believes that "this is an imposed electoral process, but that the MAP-ML will struggle within this electoral process so that the masses and workers can make their own demands known to both the Sandinist Front and to the forces in the extreme right." Tellez says that the party will also work to have "the workers strengthen our MAP-ML and its mass organizations" not only during the electoral campaign but afterward.

Three PLIUN leaders participate in that party's segment: Eduardo Coronado, Alfonso Moncada, and Rodolfo Morelo. Coronado begins by expressing hopes that "the February 1990 elections will be a step toward a definitive peace in Nicaragua." He explains that the party "emerged to struggle against the polarization of forces in this country and maintains a centrist democratic position." He urges the people to actively participate in the electoral process because it is the only opportunity to end the war and bring about peace. Moncada says "the PLIUN believes it can interpret the majority will of the Nicaraguan people, who basically want unity and want to form a united opposition capable of confronting the government regime that is governing so poorly." He adds: "Our party continues to seek national unity despite the ideological confrontation with what is today the UNO [National Opposition Union], which has excluded our political party. This just shows there is need for unity." He says that they seek unity "through the liberal alternative, through the unity of the liberals." Morelo concludes the PLIUN segment by urging Nicaraguans "to have full confidence that the PLIUN will lead the people to happiness."

The PLC segment is introduced as follows: "The PLC, a member of the UNO, dedicates the following segment to the unity of the Nicaraguan people and their struggle for peace, democracy, and the reconstruction of our fatherland." PLC President Ernesto Somarriba states that the UNO is "the only feasible option to solve the country's deep crisis." He adds that "the UNO government program is the Nicaraguan people's only option to solve the terrible problems caused by the Sandinist government." Somarriba says that "the Esquipulas agreements have yet to be fulfilled. General amnesty has not been granted. The government has been stalling and just granting partial pardons." Concerning the national media, he states: "The Sandinist government also pledged, through the Esquipulas II agreements, to permit the establishment of a private television station that would end the state's monopoly of the media and which the political parties greatly need to promote our programs and ideas." The segment also includes a film report of a 2 July opposition march in Leon, which, according to an unidentified announcer, shows that "a large segment of the Nicaraguan population is expressing its discontent with the country's situation and is mobilizing to demand a change." Somarriba then gives an explanation of the PLC's view on a social market economy, which he describes as "an economy within freedom." He stresses that freedom is the main priority in the UNO government program.

31 Aug TV Political Program

PA0709224089

[Editorial Report] Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish at 0030 GMT on 31 August broadcasts a 30-minute political parties program as a prelude to the Nicaraguan general elections. Today's program features statements by Nicaraguan Opposition Union [UNO] representative Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro; Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] representative Dionisio Marenco; and Central American Unionist Party [PUCA] representative Bernardino Rodriguez. PUCA presidential candidate Blanca Rojas, PUCA vice presidential candidate Daniel Urcuyo, and PUCA international affairs delegate Giovanni d'Diofalo.

The program begins with statements by the station announcer who says that UNO "dedicates this airtime to the unity of the Nicaraguan people and to their struggle for peace, democracy, and our homeland's reconstruction."

The report then presents an unidentified moderator introducing UNO representative Eduardo Rivas. Responding to one of the moderator's questions, Rivas says that the unity of the Nicaraguan opposition parties is "necessary to participate in the struggle and to introduce true changes in this country, which, after the fall of the Somoza dictatorship, has faced a new dictatorship that has been in power for 10 years."

Later in the program, asked about his opinion concerning the airtime that "is granted free to all of Nicaragua's political parties by the Nicaraguan Government," Rivas says that "the true owners of this television station are the Nicaraguan people and we are among the people. This airtime should not be described as a gift the government is giving to the country's political parties. The government has given only one gift and that has been to the ruling party, which has been using all television stations for free."

Later in the program, UNO Representative Rivas says that the country has been walking toward democracy at a very slow pace. Rivas says that not even that "slow progress" can be credited to the FSLN. Rivas adds: "From the very beginning, the FSLN said it was an enemy of an election process. The Nicaraguan people and foreign circumstances have forced the FSLN to hold elections."

At the end of his participation in the program, Rivas says that the government has failed to fulfill some of the commitments made in the agreement it signed with the opposition political parties. Rivas stated that the FSLN has failed to create a consultative body in which five UNO members are supposed to participate. Rivas adds: "The government appointed only three UNO members." Rivas concludes, saying that UNO continues to demand that the government abide by the agreements.

The next guest on the program is FSLN representative Dionisio Marenco.

Marenco begins by expressing gratitude for the television airtime, because the Sandinists never had this opportunity in the past under Somoza, when all propaganda had to be carried out clandestinely. Marenco adds: "The days ahead may be confusing because there are a great number of political parties that will speak. In general, their speeches will serve to attack the FSLN and you will hear that everything bad in Nicaragua is our fault."

Marenco adds that the FSLN wishes to stress four basic ideas. "First, is that the FSLN wants to remind everyone that the Somozist dictatorship was defeated by the people led by the Sandinists." Marenco adds that "now, for the first time in Nicaragua, an entire generation is going to vote that does not recall the dictatorship." Marenco goes on to say that "many opposition political parties at the time of the Sandinist victory remained undecided until the very last moment. Today, many of these same parties again display this very same attitude." He describes the second idea as the "phenomena of counterrevolutionary defeat," adding "that as soon as the revolution triumphs, war against our country begins. Reagan could not stand the thought of a genuine workers' revolution." Marenco outlines the third idea: "It is important to remember the great amount of work that has been accomplished during these years, such as new hospitals and factories, amid the war of aggression." Marenco calls the fourth and last idea "the future, when the war ends, when land may be tilled and new houses built in the peaceful and new Nicaragua we

have all dreamed about so much." Marenco concludes by calling on all Nicaraguans to register to vote, having won peace, victory, and the right to be free, we will continue to forge ahead."

The last 10 minutes of the program features statements by PUCA Representative Bernardino Rodriguez, PUCA presidential candidate Blanca Rojas, PUCA vice presidential candidate Daniel Urcuyo, and PUCA international affairs delegate Giovanni d'Diofalo.

The final segment begins with statements by Rodriguez greeting the Nicaraguan people and introducing PUCA presidential candidate Blanca Rojas, who says that PUCA "is the party of the future, the party of reality and hopes." Rojas goes on to say that PUCA struggles to overcome "not only for regional problems, but also for the problems that exist in all the Central American countries."

Rojas concludes her remarks by saying that women are the "backbone" of PUCA and then introduces PUCA vice presidential candidate Urcuyo.

Urcuyo says that "PUCA's message is addressed to all Nicaraguans, including those abroad. We urge them to return to our dear homeland and to work for the well-being of our country."

Urcuyo concludes by saying that "PUCA will work to improve Nicaraguans' standard of living and to improve the standard of living of our brothers on the Atlantic Coast."

PUCA Representative Rodriguez then introduces PUCA international affairs delegate Giovanni d'Diofalo. D'Diofalo says that "this is the first time in 90 years that PUCA has been given airtime in Nicaragua" and highlights PUCA's history as a party in Nicaragua. The program concludes with Rodriguez giving viewers the address of PUCA headquarters for those interested in contacting the party.

UNO Parties Show Support for Godoy, Chamorro

PA0709221689 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 2010 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Managua, 7 Sep (REUTER)—The main Nicaraguan opposition bloc managed to consolidate its unity around the charismatic figure of Violeta Chamorro today, just hours before the deadline expired for the legal registry of the coalition.

Parties belonging to the National Opposition Union [UNO] smoothed over their differences concerning the choice of vice presidential candidate Virgilio Godoy and signed the alliance's charter that brings the left and right groups together.

"This pen will be our weapon," Chamorro, the presidential candidate for the 25 February elections, said upon receiving the pen used by the leaders to sign the charter. "The other weapons will go to the museums."

The agreement was made possible when the four parties that would not accept Godoy changed their decision in order to maintain unity and to meet the Friday, 8 September deadline for registering, their leaders said.

However, they said they were going to insist on each party going to the elections with their own candidates for deputies.

"I believe it should be like Panama," Christian Democratic Party leader Agustin Jarquin said. "There, opposition parties backed one presidential candidate, but each party had its own candidates to the National Assembly."

The Sandinist press said today that the change of attitude of the parties that opposed Godoy was preceded by private visits on Wednesday, 6 September, to the leaders of those parties by a U.S. diplomat identified as Valentin Martinez.

Ramiro Gurdian, leader of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise and a steadfast opposer to Godoy's candidacy, admitted having talked to Martinez over the political situation, but gave no further details.

Chamorro, 59, who is the director of the only opposition newspaper in Managua, appeared agile and at ease in her first meeting with the official press since she was postulated as presidential candidate by the 14 UNO parties.

A reporter for a Sandinist radio station asked her if she felt that her health was strong enough to face the intense campaign ahead. Chamorro replied: "I am in better shape than you are."

Dona Violeta, as she is popularly known here, is the widow of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, former director of LA PRENSA, whose murder in 1978, presumably by followers of dictator Anastasio Somoza, unleashed the revolution that led the Sandinists to power the following year.

When a reporter asked her if she saw any similarities between herself and Philippine President Corazon Aquino, who took power after the overthrow of dictator Ferdinand Marcos in 1986, she replied: "I see that Corazon Aquino is contributing toward democracy in the Philippines. I am struggling for this here, but not just now. I was in 1979, but we were betrayed then. Now we are going to have a free Nicaragua."

Chamorro was part of a government junta following the Sandinist revolution, but she withdrew 8 months afterwards to manage LA PRENSA and fight what she considered the country's march toward socialism.

However, one of her sons directs the Sandinist newspaper BARRICADA and a brother-in-law heads the other pro-government newspaper. Another son was a Nicaraguan Resistance leader, a daughter helps her at LA PRENSA, and the other daughter is a Sandinist ambassador.

A reporter asked her how she headed a divided family. "It is obvious you have not visited my home, where all are brothers," she replied.

Contras Killed in Central Zelaya Attack

PA0709161889 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1246 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Seven contras were killed in the early hours of 4 September when a group of 30 men attacked positions of the Carlos Aguero Battalion in El Pochote Hill, 8 km north of Waslala, Central Zelaya.

According to reports from the Defense Ministry in the 6th Region, several contras were wounded during the attack. In addition, a large amount of military equipment and various weapons were confiscated. The Carlos Aguero Battalion sustained no casualties, the military report added.

The contra group belongs to the Jorge Salazar Commando No 2 which operates in areas of Waslala, (La Oca), and near the Blanco River.

Panama

Noriega Delivers Message to Nonaligned Summit

PA0809044489 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2321 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Message from General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces (FDP), to the presidents and heads of state attending the ninth summit of Nonaligned Movement in Belgrade, Yugoslavia; read by Panama's Provisional Vice President Carlos Ozores on 7 September in Belgrade—recorded]

[Text] Although I am neither a head of state nor president, I am addressing you as commander in chief of the FDP. For the past 21 years, the FDP has led the process to decolonize Panama's territory, which was initiated and led by that extraordinary Third World fighter and statesman General Omar Torrijos Herrera.

For more than 2 years, Panama has with firmness and dignity withstood the policy of economic aggression and military provocation which the U.S. Government has imposed on the country in open defiance of international morals and the people's right to self-determination.

The U.S. Southern Command, which was arbitrarily established in the heart of my fatherland, carries out daily military maneuvers in territory under Panamanian jurisdiction—and even in the very center of the capital city—with massive displays of armored vehicles, combat airplanes, and thousands of specialized troops. Meanwhile, the U.S. Administration has publicly expressed its contempt for Panama's sovereignty and is threatening to carry out a military invasion.

The purpose of this aggressive policy is clear to all Panamanian patriots. Through the treaty signed at the OAS headquarters in Washington by President Carter and Omar Torrijos Herrera, commander of the Panamanian anticolonialist revolution, the United States expressly recognized the Panamanian State's sovereignty, pledged to gradually—and on the pre-established dates—evacuate and decolonize the 1,078 square km of Panamanian territory it has occupied since 1903, to dismantle their bases and military installations, and to transfer full ownership of the canal to Panama on 31 December 1999.

Despite the absolute legitimacy of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, and despite the unanimous support the international community—especially the Nonaligned Movement—has shown this treaty, the truth is that the Torrijos-Carter treaty was never accepted by the administrations that succeeded President Carter.

During the last 2 years of the Reagan administration, the United States showed its total disregard for our military honor when it demanded that Panama renegotiate and extend the U.S. military presence and the maintenance of U.S. military bases on the isthmus beyond the year 2000. An attempt was made to force us to provide FDP troops and special units for a military aggression against neighboring Nicaragua. Panama's unhesitating rejection of these two plans, both of which were unacceptable for any true Latin American patriot, unleashed the U.S. Administration's wrath against the country.

The U.S. President arbitrarily issued orders to stop paying the Republic of Panama any annuities and benefits from the canal's operation as established in the treaty. He also ordered the illegal withholding of taxes and social security quotas deducted from the salaries of Panamanian canal workers, the freezing of millions of dollars which the National Bank had deposited in U.S. banks in accordance with previous monetary agreements, and the confiscation of airplanes from the state airline.

U.S. companies were banned from paying taxes to the Panamanian Government, the number of U.S. troops was increased, and hundreds of tanks, armored vehicles, and combat airplanes and helicopters were sent to the military bases for the obvious purpose of making Panama's leaders surrender and to impose on Panama a docile government that would be willing to revise the Torrijos-Carter treaties or tolerate their nonfulfillment, thus turning Panama into a peon of U.S. continental policies.

Almost all of you, and better than I, know that national independence will not come easily. It will require a very difficult struggle and sacrifices. Our past heroes, Bolivar, Sucre, San Martin, O'Higgins, Marti, and Sandino knew this, and it is also known to the Latin American heads of states and presidents who are resisting various forms of enslavement, both subtle and open efforts to control their nation's economies through the infernal mechanism of foreign debt collection, and the increasingly unequal and less endurable exchange of raw material and labor that

have been depreciated by advanced products and industrial technology. This is also known to all of the current African and Asian leaders, the brothers of Kenyatta, Nkrumah, Nyerere, Amilcar Cabral, Agostinho Neto, Samora Machel, Nelson Mandela, and Ho Chi Minh.

My sense of responsibility tells me to inform you that the FDP, alongside its people, will continue resisting as long as necessary, regardless of the circumstances imposed on us from abroad. We will not take a single step backward. Thank you very much, Mr President.

Nonaligned Document Demands Sanctions Lifted

PA0809014189 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Among the approximately 20 documents drafted during the conference of nonaligned countries, the document of action on Panama was the most controversial. It was approved with reservations from Jamaica and Venezuela, with the latter officially distancing itself from the text.

The original text, which was defended by Cuba, Panama, and Nicaragua, demands that economic sanctions against Panama be lifted. It also expresses concern over the U.S. military maneuvers, which may lead to a serious conflict.

With Venezuela's expressed reservation over the document, observers feel that Venezuela is paying Panama back for the veto that Panama cast against Caracas' admission into the Nonaligned Movement, which was formalized during this conference.

Rodriguez Speech on Canal Treaties Anniversary

PA0709175889 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 7 Sep 89 pp 1, 18

["Text" of speech by Provisional President Francisco Rodriguez commemorating the 12th anniversary of the signing of the Torrijos-Carter treaties—date and place not given]

[Text] Today we commemorate the 12th anniversary of the signing of the Torrijos-Carter Panama Canal treaties, an anniversary that should usher in a fundamental stage in the big generational struggle of the Panamanian people to fully achieve their destiny and should establish the bases of a new and more mature relationship with the United States, our historic partner in the history of the interoceanic waterway.

This relationship, which was inaugurated under the best auspices of all the states of the continent, within the symbolic framework of the OAS headquarters in Washington, was distinguished at the outset more by friction and lack of confidence rather than harmony, understanding, and mutual respect, as behooves two countries that were called upon by providence to undertake a vast project for the benefit of communication, commerce, and understanding among nations. This relationship is currently embroiled in a situation that seriously affects our Republic and endangers the security of the Panama Canal and peace in this part of the world.

I wish to express my government's profound indignation over the the continuing escaltion by the United States of violence and intimidation against our territory and our people in violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. Panama has repeatedly denounced this before the international community. Since Law 96-70 was implemented, the United States has disavowed its fundamental commitments it made to Panama and has acted illegally and unjustly by denying our country it legal rights. Furthermore, the Republic of Panama has been subjected to an ominous aggression by the United States, which is manifested in the economic, political, moral, and military fields. This is harmful to all the Panamanian people and undermines our national sovereignty.

Despite all these offenses and prejudices, Panama has always demonstrated its willingness to comply with the Torrijos-Carter treaties and to guarantee the international community, which supports and is in solidarity with Panama, that it will continue to assume its responsibility of promoting free interoceanic transit, as established in the treaties.

On this anniversary, which is so significant, I extend my best wishes and appeal for goodwill so that we can soon overcome our differences and so that the threats, confrontations, and aggression will cease, and we can take once again the path outlined by history on that solemn historic event 12 years ago when all the countries of the new world participated at a summit filled with hope in our ability to live peacefully and fraternally. The highest tribute we could pay on this significant anniversary would be to strengthen our identity as a free and sovereign peoples who endeavor to continue to struggle resolutely and heroically for their national liberation.

Columnist Rejects PALA's Attack on President

PA0709233489 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 7 Sep 89 p 8

[From the "Today in the World" column by Luis Manuel Martinez]

[Text] After the actions in 1984 and 1989 of the UNADE [National Democratic Union] and COLINA [National Liberation Coalition], respectively, the provisional government had to untie the strings of political seats. This is undoubtedly among one of the best decisions of the new government'. It is unacceptable for the PALA [Panamanian Labor Party] leader to attack President Francisco Rodriguez because he was not consulted or even invited to take part in the national legislation commission.

PALA Secretary General Ramon Sieiro's remarks at the Vallarino building on the morning of 5 September are in truth unfortunate. His actions during the campaign left a lot to be desired. Perhaps Ramon needs a vacation in Europe to meditate and control his ambitions for a

country that is burdened by insults, is economically besieged, and is subjected to the cruelest humiliations of psychological warfare.

Francisco Rodriguez meets the country's expectations. There is not a single Panamanian of goodwill who can dispute this without committing an act of intransigence or displaying unpardonable selfishness.

I never thought that Ramon Sieiro would agree with Ricardo Arias Calderon's impudent language or venomous invectives. Arias, like Sieiro, says there has been a "coup d'etat."

Argentina

Official on U.S., Argentine Antidrug Plans

PY0709190689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1707 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Sep (TELAM)—Eugenio Lestelle, secretary for the prevention of drug abuse and drug trafficking control, has warned that Argentina "is running a serious risk" that "Colombian drug traffickers will enter" through the northwest border because of the possible "dispersion" of drug trafficking organizations currently operating in that country.

In addition, Lestelle supported this possibility by mentioning the fact that a situation similar to the one in Colombia could also occur in Bolivia. Although he hoped "that this will not be the case," Lestelle pointed out that "our country's northwest region has a climate, characteristics, and language very similar to those in Bolivia."

Lestelle said that he expects his warning to be an "alert" so that, "the security organizations will jointly agree to increase patrols in this red strip, the red zone in Salta, Formosa, and Jujuy Provinces."

Lestelle made these remarks during a news conference at his office during which he discussed aspects of the current status of drug trafficking activities in Argentina and the national government's policies in this field.

Lestelle said that his secretariat is promoting various actions to raise the people's consciousness on this issue. He emphasized that Argentina still is a "transit" country, in which "consumption has increased," but it "is not a producing country."

Lestelle expressed hope that, before the end of its regular sessions, Congress will approve the pertinent bill, which includes penalties for the possession of drugs and for the drug trafficking.

In this regard, Lestelle said that, despite the fact that the bill establishes penalties for both drug addicts and drug traffickers, there is "understanding" for the situation of addicts.

Lestelle recalled that the penalties run from 1 to 25 years of imprisonment and that to apply them judges will consider various aspects, including the quantity of drug seized, if the person is a "beginner" in the possession of drugs, and the place where the person possessing drugs is detained.

As an example, Lestelle pointed out: "The situation of anyone detained in a school may be exacerbated."

Lestelle explained that "we are working on three sections." He said: "they are the healthy society, which is the section with which we are most concerned and which we must protect; the diseased section of society, comprising the drug addicts; and, last, the drug traffickers, against whom we are waging an all-out struggle."

Lestelle said that the U.S. Government "is making a mistake" when it allocates 70 percent of its antinarcotics plan, totaling $7.6 billion, to combat illegal drug trafficking and only 30 percent to prevention.

After pointing out that he does not know if a portion of the total amount would be allocated to Argentina, Lestelle said that Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia will receive $350 million for "assistance" tasks.

Lestelle said that the government is trying "to gain international presence" in this field. He emphasized the need to secure "assistance" from international organizations to struggle against drug trafficking, and he disclosed that over the past 2 weeks two agreements were signed with the U.S. Government.

Through one of these agreements, he explained, the Federal Police will receive "technical assistance" while the other agreement will serve to coordinate "an integrated network" of the security organizations.

Planes Offered to Colombia

PY0709155689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2018 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Belgrade, 6 Sep (EFE)—Argentine President Carlos Menem said in Belgrade that Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today offered "Guarani" transport planes to his Colombian counterpart Julio Londono to fight drug trafficking.

Today Menem left Yugoslavia where, since last Monday [4 September], he had been attending the ninth conference of the Nonaligned Movement, during which the drug-trafficking problem was discussed by the majority of the 18 Latin American members of the movement.

Menem stated: "We fully support Colombia in its struggle against drug trafficking, and we have given instructions that three or four antiguerrilla planes [as received] be handed over for the transport of troops in the struggle against drug traffickers. We are all interested in this struggle," he concluded.

The offer was made a few hours after the arrival of Colombian President Virgilio Barco's urgent message to the ninth conference of the nonaligned countries.

In his message Barco states that the solidarity of this international community must be expressed through effective aid and resolute action to stop the demand for drugs in the main industrialized countries.

He stated: "It is unacceptable that while Colombia is waging a tough and generalized war against drug trafficking, drugs are being sold on the streets of the largest cities of the industrialized countries under the tolerant sight of their citizens and authorities."

The Argentine president today arrived in Madrid. At the airport he will make a brief stopover en route to Buenos Aires.

Menem Comments on Amnesty, Peace Mission

PY0709212189 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1327 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Sep (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem has said "there is still nothing concrete" about granting amnesty to the military, "but we will solve this problem." He warned that if the Economic Emergency Bill is vetoed Congress will have to debate it again, and "Argentina is not in a position to continue losing time over these issues."

Menem made these remarks this morning at the Ezeiza International Airport upon returning from his trip abroad. He has attended the Ninth Conference of the Heads of State or Government of the Nonaligned Movement in Belgrade, and he met with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez.

Asked about granting amnesty to the military, President Menem said: "There is nothing concrete about it yet, but we will solve this problem. The date is known only to the president of the Republic."

Asked whether this amnesty will apply only to the military involved in the Holy Week, Villa Martelli, and Monte Caseros rebellions, Menem said: "It may."

Asked about the march to be staged tomorrow, protesting against this amnesty, he said to stage this march is "like opening an umbrella before it starts to rain," and that he considers it "entirely absurd."

"It have a great respect for the fact that we are living in liberty and democracy," he said, "but there are certain sectors that, for entirely politically reasons, overlook the suffering of others, of those of us who have been in jail, and who have been tortured. I have repeatedly said that only through national reconciliation can we achieve peace."

Asked about the request to veto Article 48 of the Economic Emergency Bill on firing compensation, and Article 30 on taxes on fuels, Menem said he will study this possibility with his ministers, the sector secretaries and undersecretaries. He added: "I warn the nation, however that, if I veto these articles, the law will again have to be submitted to Congress. Argentina is not in a position to continue losing time over these issues."

Menem, who was received at the airport by the vice president and other officials, added: "Anyway, one law can be modified by another law."

Asked about the peace mission he will undertake in the Middle East, he said: "For a long time now, I have been holding talks with representatives of the countries involved in conflicts that have kept the world in suspense."

"Following my talks with Israeli representatives, representatives of the Arab countries, and the chairman of the International Jewish Commission, I am now in a position to act as a mediator in the efforts to reduce the devastating effects of these wars," Menem said.

He said that after meeting with President Bush at the end of September he will "decide about the measures he will adopt if he accepts the post of mediator."

He said the Ninth Conference of the Heads of State or Government of the Nonaligned Movement was "excellent." He added that the conference tried to "close the gap between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. The participants became aware that ideologies keep nations walled up in themselves and often prevent these nations from enjoying the freedom indispensable for their growth."

Menem said that the conference gave "special importance" to discussion on "peace, development, and cooperation."

Menem reported that yesterday he agreed with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to form the commissions created by the special association treaty signed by the two countries "in order to implement the agreements."

Asked if the UN General Assembly would debate the Malvinas Islands issue, Menem believed that would not be necessary. He said: "I do not believe that this will be necessary. There is already a resolution by the Decolonization Council on this issue."

He said: "We are holding talks. For the time being we are keeping that resolution frozen." He added: "Let us not forget that Argentina lost votes in the two penultimate debates, therefore it would not be wise to touch this issue while talks are going on."

Menem said that "we have already reached some kind of understanding, and according to how things evolve we will decide whether we should submit this issue to the UN General Assembly."

He said that he could not "determine when a meeting could be held" between himself and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. He said: "It is difficult to say, it will depend on how the talks go. So far the talks are going well."

Menem said that the Argentine rapprochement toward the British "was well received by all sectors of the international community. All the governments that attended the submit conference of 70 heads of state support the Argentine position."

He said: "Now Argentina has a good image in the international community." He added that during his meeting with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat "there was no chance to talk" about the eventual opening of a PLO office in Argentina.

He added: "The issue was discussed lightly. We said that we have to study it." He said that 'Arafat "was thankful for the meeting. We continued to talk about the PLO but 'Arafat not longer talks about the PLO, he talked about the Palestine state."

Menem also said that it will be up to Congress to decide if Argentina will send men to Colombia on the UN request. He added that the planes will be sent "as soon as Colombia requests it."

Menem also said that "for the time being we do not have an ambassador in Panama. Let us not forget that this issue is under the OAS consideration. If this problem is solved Argentina will send its ambassador to Panama."

Asked about the election of Justicialist Senator Eduardo Vaca for the federal capital, Menem said: "That was a decision of the electoral college."

He said that he will not travel to the Middle East before the end of this year because he has to make three other trips. He said: "If I can go I will go specially if it involves the mediation for which I have offered my services." He said that on 19 or 20 September he will travel to the United States, on 11 or 12 September to Peru and a few days later to Costa Rica.

Regarding inflation Menem said that he is satisfied with the result of the economic plan which lowered inflation rate from 200 percent to 37 percent. He reiterated his confidence that the September inflation rate "will not exceed a single digit."

Four Bilateral Agreements Signed With Syria

PY0709145289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2322 GMT 6 Sep 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Sep (TELAM)—The Governments of Argentina and Syria today signed four bilateral agreements for scientific, technological, cultural, and commercial cooperation. These agreements also provide for the creation of a joint commission to deal with different issues.

The agreements were signed this afternoon at the Foreign Ministry by Salim Yasin, Syrian deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Syrian Ambassador to Argentina 'Abd-al-Hasib al-Ustuwani; and Argentine Deputy Foreign Minister Juan Archibaldo Lanus.

After the signing of the agreements, the Syrian ambassador expressed hope that "these agreements will not be of interest for Argentina and Syria alone, but that they will have repercussions in the whole Arab world and in Latin America as well.

Bolivia

Government To Insist on Coca Replacement Plan

PY0809034489 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 31 Aug 89 p 6

[Text] Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco yesterday announced that the government will propose the voluntary replacement of coca plantations in traditional and nontraditional areas.

"The government believes a decisive drive to encourage alternative development and the eradication and voluntary replacement of coca plantations is as important as prohibition. The government will therefore engage in a frank and honest dialogue with peasants from traditional as well as nontraditional producing zones," the minister said during a ceremony at the Social Defense Under Secretariat.

The minister added that the dialogue will be based on a project of alternative development "that will emphasize progress and dignified and decent living conditions." That project, he said is designed to gain the support of the international community and the government "and to encourage peasants to abandon the criminal path."

This will be a way to fulfill our commitments to the international community and the people, the minister said.

Capobianco said the government will use better technical equipment to help fight the drug traffic and will increase its support to programs to prevent the illegal use of the drug.

The minister explained that the guidelines are part of the new government approach to fighting drug trafficking that will be implemented after the reorganization of the institutions in charge of the problem.

Capobianco said the Political Council (CONPOL), presided over by General Hugo Banzer, will soon unveil its proposals for the reorganization of the institutions in charge of the problem so that those institutions can coordinate their work and more efficiently take on the fight against drug trafficking, the replacement of coca plantations, and the problem of drug addiction.

Drug consumption is increasing, but the government "will try hard to prevent the country from going from a drug producer to a drug consumer," Capobianco said. He added that he supports educational programs, beginning at the family level.

The government reorganization program includes a proposal for the creation of an organization to coordinate the work of the Social Defense Under Secretariat, the Alternative Development Under Secretariat, and the National Council for the Prevention of Drug Consumption (CONAPRE).

New Army Commander in Chief Installed

PY0709130689 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] During a ceremony at the Great General Barracks of Miraflores, General Rolando Espinoza Lora was installed as the new commander in chief of the Army.

On this occasion, General Romulo Mercado, former Army commander in chief, praised the democratic system, which is being effectively supported by the

Army. During the past few years the Army has concentrated on increasing the prestige and professionalization of its members, Gen Mercado said.

Brazil

* Brizola on Privatization, Collor, Second Round

3342007 6a Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Aug 89 p 5

[Interview with PDT presidential candidate Leonel Brizola by Jose Neumanne in Rio de Janeiro; date not given; first two paragraphs are O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO introduction]

[Text] The PDT [Democratic Labor Party] candidate for the office of president of the Republic, Leonel Brizola, regards the issue of transfers to the private sector versus transfers to the state sector in Brazil as a false dilemma. He referred to a traditional theoretician of the labor movement in Brazil, Alberto Pasqualini of Rio Grande do Sul, and gave assurance that in his future government, the rule will be free enterprise, and state intervention in the economy will be the exception. "We cannot destroy the farm production we have in the name of agrarian reform we will carry out," Brizola said in an exclusive interview granted to O ESTADO in the premises of Radio Globo in Rio de Janeiro, following his appearance on commentator Luiz de Franca's program.

During the interview, the PDT candidate compared his main opponent, former governor of Alagoas Fernando Collor de Mello, of the PRN [National Reconstruction Party] to the last Nicaraguan dictator, Anastazio Somoza. He predicted that if this candidate won the election, his first step would be to turn against his present ally, Roberto Marinho, the owner of the Globo Organizations. In addition to Collor, the candidate also criticized Roberto Marinho and the Civita family, of the Abril Publishing House. He promises to revise the mass communications system now existing in the country in a "democratizing" fashion. With regard to the crisis within the PDT involving Deputy Cesar Maia, he said that "there will always be a feeling which may lead to misunderstandings." This statement was followed by his recognition of the good faith of his economic adviser.

[O ESTADO] Why have you decided to interrupt the campaign?
[Brizola] There has been no interruption. This was an erroneous interpretation. We are doing now what we have always done—making adjustments, starting with an assessment based on our internal intelligence system, whereby we are seeking to take our place in the social process, our principal guide. The intellectuals—mainly those with an elitist tendency—show disdain for this system of ours, but we believe that the people themselves have the wisdom. It is for us, the political cadres and leaders, to understand what the communities want for their survival and development.

[O ESTADO] The voters then, are finally going to understand your mysterious program of government?
[Brizola] A candidate does not need to present a program of government, but he must have goals to be achieved, that is to say general ideas, on the basis of which he plunges into the campaign, and it is then that he can hear and sense the desires of the people. The proposals must arise from the aspirations of the various social sectors. Only after the people have spoken can a candidate define his position specifically with regard to problems and issues.

[O ESTADO] At this point, you should not yet be providing that definition?
[Brizola] No. The electoral campaign exists precisely for this purpose. This is the method of democracy. The campaign serves as a great general assembly for the discussion of national problems. It is not a complex of artistic and rhetorical performances, no. Strictly speaking, a campaign is a kind of readjustment of the social strata. Through this process, society expresses itself as a whole and the candidates communicate with the voters, setting forth general ideas—not a technocratic program as such, but a platform.

[O ESTADO] What is the platform you have presented thus far?
[Brizola] Let us take one field as an example—education. We understand the reality, we call upon our experience, and we have the credibility to put forth general proposals, which, strictly speaking, can only be carried out by several successive governments. On the basis of this line of commitment, it is possible to establish a goal, a platform, for this government we are preparing to take on. The assessment will only be finalized as the campaign develops. There are even plans which will only be complete as the government proceeds. For example, we are going to establish CIEPS (full-time public schools, like those established in Rio). But we will only know how many as the government term develops.

[O ESTADO] Despite all of your explanations, the newspapers are reporting that your campaign has come to a halt because of the crisis with Deputy Cesar Maia (PDT, Rio de Janeiro). Do you deny that this crisis exists?
[Brizola] I know Cesar Maia very well. He was my secretary, and he came into the party thanks to me. I am able to assess his character properly, and I can guarantee his good faith in the incident reported. I believe that this issue has been excessively exploited solely because it involves me. Similar incidents have not been as widely reported, because they had to do with other candidates. I regret this, among other things because I feel sorry for Cesar Maia. I regard his memorandum as satisfactory, but there will always be a feeling which may lead to misunderstandings.

[O ESTADO] Why was Cesar Maia pushed aside within the PDT?
[Brizola] Obviously, even within the party, we do not all think the same. There are differences in approach. The fact is that Cesar Maia, like myself, enjoys talking to reporters, and sometimes those of us who do this become

the victims of periodicals which do not properly report what we think. Very often this forces us to go back and provide explanations.

[O ESTADO] Was it not your centralizing orientation which irritated Cesar Maia?
[Brizola] I do not deny that I exercise leadership. But it often happens here that austerity is confused with authoritarian centralization and bossism, and strictness and control are confused with centralization. Dr Ulysses has been president of the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] for 20 years. Lula has been the single leader of the PT [Workers Party] for as long as the party has existed. Mario Amato is the perpetual president of the FIESP [Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries]. And none of these individuals is a "boss." Only Leonel Brizola is. I returned from 15 years in exile, and exclusively because I am made the leader of a respectable contingent of the Brazilian population, they say that I am a "boss." Apart from all of my personal defects, they push this discredit upon my person for the purpose of blocking me, hindering my advance, my progress. With all of these defects I have, it is only on me that they focus. The leading class in the country is aware that we hold the thread of history, of the resumption of our natural destiny.

[O ESTADO] Isn't this a very conspiratorial view of history?
[Brizola] Those who enjoy privileges know very well that I pose a threat to these privileges.

[O ESTADO] Recently, the periodical VEJA carried a rather favorable article about you. Even so, you reacted with anger. Would this not be proof that you suffer from a certain persecution complex?
[Brizola] The Civita family comprises a group of foreigners who have done rather well here. This may even be thanks to their competence. But this does not give them the right to call me paranoid, much less to invade my wife's privacy by discussing her health problems. The truth is that in reporting on the other candidates, neither the same weight nor the same measure has been used. I believe that this can only deserve rejection by all of us. We need to educate these people, to put an end to these abuses. And VEJA is not the only one.

[O ESTADO] Do you regard the newspaper reports that you have received support from the bookmakers in Rio as "abusive"?
[Brizola] This problem does not worry me greatly. In governing the state, we have pursued a policy of avoiding raising the banner of repression against activities such as bookmaking, but when we know of the existence of illegal actions, we reject them. With regard to the bicho games specifically, my position has always been consistent, favoring regulation. Along this line, I have sent several files to the Figueiredo government. And the newspapers themselves have reported that this position did not please many of the illegal bookmakers.

[O ESTADO] Why do you complain about the media so much?
[Brizola] The media in Brazil have contributed greatly to a somewhat depraved treatment of Brazilian problems and individuals.

[O ESTADO] On one point, you agree with Sarney—the media are always the great villain in history, isn't that so?
[Brizola] I have other background information, because I question the media from the inside out, and I guarantee that one of the first concerns of my government, if I am elected, will be to undertake a democratizing revision of this system, without excluding anyone, but without giving anyone privilege either. It is essential to challenge the parallel power of television in Brazil to distort. We can even invoke the example of the United States, a very liberal country in this regard, but one in which the legal rules do not allow a monopoly such as the Globo Network has. I will challenge this in the Congress and in the courts. I will exhaust every prerogative available to the executive branch. If none of this works, I will summon Mr Roberto Marinho to the palace and I will say to him: "Sit down here and govern. I will not lend myself to the role of an intermediary." Moreover, important and reliable declarations have been made concerning this gentleman, such as Armando Falcao's letter and the incident of the resignation of the board of directors of Pro-Memoria. These cases demonstrate that Globo still remains a kind of private redoubt of authoritarianism. It is not that I want to force Roberto Marinho out of the system. I want him to have a stake in the pot, but not to control it all, as is the case now.

[O ESTADO] Why do you credit Globo with "producing" Fernando Collor?
[Brizola] We have now lost confidence in those poll indices which show Brizola and Lula in the lead, creating the illusion of inevitable leftist victory, even on the international scene. Immediately after this impression that the left must inevitably triumph was created, the candidate Collor began to be reported to be rising from 5 or 6 percent of the votes to 12 or 13 percent, although he had not saved a single baby from the fire. I do not say that these polls are entirely false, but these figures are exaggerated.

[O ESTADO] But you cannot deny that your candidacy has benefited from this polarization with the favorite candidate, Collor, isn't that true?
[Brizola] I merely felt it my duty to oppose this effort to impose an electoral Cruzado Plan on the Brazilian people. Yes, because this candidate came to be an imposition, like the Cruzado Plan, put forward in order to deceive and draw people in. I felt it was essential to reveal it for what it was. The personal insults directed against me even freed me from my natural reluctance to challenge another's candidacy vigorously. This candidate, moreover, has enjoyed a strange immunity. He has insulted the president, has described the head of the SNI [National Service for Intelligence] as a "generaleco," has offended his adversaries, and has been given 3 hours of television time, in a clearly fraudulent violation of the electoral law. If he enjoys impunity, it can only be because he represents the continuation of the prevailing

economic and establishment model, which he confirmed, moreover, at the CNI [National Confederation of Industries].

[O ESTADO] But you cannot deny that this individual exerts a certain fascination...
[Brizola] I have looked for a historical personage in Latin America comparable to Collor. I have determined that the man who presented himself under the same conditions, in practically the same terms, was the last Somoza, in Nicaragua, when he was a young man. He too was a playboy, was elegant, sported a mustache like Errol Flynn, had good connections in the United States, and spoke English fluently. And his family had radio concessions, apart from owning newspapers. After he seized power, he took over the television sector.

[O ESTADO] Are you suggesting that Collor might be another Somoza, in Brazil?
[Brizola] And I am saying more. Since this individual has no scruples, I have no doubt that his first victim will be Roberto Marinho. After all, he has shown that he does not care deeply about anything.

[O ESTADO] How do you see the possibility of challenging him directly on the second round in the election?
[Brizola] It would be good and desirable for the people if he were to reach the second round, representing the continuation of all of this which has occurred in Brazil from the military dictatorship to the Sarney government—the furious right wing of Geisel, Roberto Marinho, and Antonio Carlos Magalhaes, and the harsh, egotistical, and impenetrable reactionary conservatism. This would require that the candidate representing the people, the liberal forces, be extrenely competent. If the people believe that I should be that candidate, I would feel comforted and confident in undertaking this struggle face to face, I can assure you.

[O ESTADO] But Lula says that after having been enamored of the right wing, you are no longer in a position to ask the left wing for votes. Do you agree?
[Brizola] I have never been motivated by personal goals or projects. I have acted in accordance with specific situations, concerning issues of principle and public interest. When I challenged the activities of the CUT [United Federation of Workers] and the progressive church, I acted in legitimate defense of and to guarantee our identity. I am certain that irreversible situations were not created.

[O ESTADO] In other words, you can rely on the left wing in the second round?
[Brizola] There is nothing to prevent us from fighting together against the common threats to our people in the future. This is true on our part, and I know that there is real reciprocation.

[O ESTADO] Does the reciprocation include Covas and Ulysses, for example?
[Brizola] I would say more. We will have to extend a hand not only to the left wing, but also to the liberal sectors, and even to the clear-thinking conservatives.

[O ESTADO] As well as to the right-wing politicians in the Northeast who support you?

[Brizola] Getulio Vargas always said that Brazilian conservatism has two factions—one is the hardened reactionary one, while the other is more flexible and clear thinking and makes "preserve by improving" its theme. These factions have the ability to stabilize a situation at a delicate moment in our country such as that we are experiencing now.

[O ESTADO] How is it that you do not fear returning to exile?

[Brizola] I do not worry about this. Moreover, I will not go into exile again under any circumstances.

[O ESTADO] But is there no threat to the prospects of democratization?

[Brizola] An upset is possible, but it is not the most probable hypothesis. We will get to the election, but the efforts of everyone will be needed.

[O ESTADO] Will these efforts be oriented, in any future government of yours, toward transfers to the private sector or state intervention in the economy?

[Brizola] I am an engineer, never forget that. Therefore, behind my actions there are not just words, but rather a reinforced concrete structure containing iron, stone, cement, sand, and water. Only I have another view of development, because I do not believe in development without social justice. We cannot lapse into a confused situation, destroying the sources of work, jobs, and production we still have. Great firmness is needed, but very clear thinking is needed as well. We cannot destroy the farm production we have in the name of agrarian reform we will undertake. I have already told the nation's businessmen that I will work to benefit them, even when they do not agree with what I am doing to their benefit. This problem of transfers to the private sector, you can believe, is a false dilemma. The rule is free enterprise, and state intervention is the exception. It was always thus. In the labor doctrine as well, in the good labor doctrine of Alberto Pasqualini—this is what democratic socialism is. Except that modern societies are very complex, and there are sectors which must be taken over by the public authorities, such as mass transportation in the large cities, for example.

[O ESTADO] You do not seem as animated as at the beginning of the campaign. Why?

[Brizola] Do not confuse my calm or my lack of personal ambition with discouragement, or any other feeling or situation. It is precisely this which will lead me to triumph. If I lose, it will not be a tragedy, because I am not acting on the basis of tensions or secondary concerns. But I am going to win and I am prepared to govern.

*** Military Contacts, Supporters of Candidate Seen**

33420076b Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 Jul 89 p A-6

[Article by Roberto Lopes]

[Text] Brasilia—Representatives of the candidates reported to be the favorites in the polls have been holding private talks in the military sector, although they have said that military support will not determine the electoral results. These actions point to future trends. If Sao Paulo Senator Mario Covas of the PSDB [Brazilian Social Democratic Party] becomes president of the Republic, the possibility that the current chiefs of the General Staffs of the Army and Navy (Gen Waldir Eduardo Martins and Adm Mario Cesar Flores) would become ministers is increased. Both are moderate officers.

Martins was head of the Curitiba branch of the SNI [National Service for Intelligence] when the PSDB senator from Parana, Jose Richa, governed that state, and the two are good friends today. Flores, who has made no secret, in private conversations, of a certain admiration for Covas, has close links with sociologist Helio Jaguaribe, a man of importance in the government program of the "toucan" candidate.

The statements by the minister of Army, Gen Leonidas Pires Goncalves, to the effect that the PRN [National Reconstruction Party] candidate, Fernando Collor de Mello, is not at all likely to lose this election, caused constraint at the General Headquarters (QG) in Brasilia. Collor made a very bad impression in military circles when he described the head of the SNI, Gen Ivan de Souza Mendes, as a "generaleco." To friends, the candidate said that he felt that the SNI was watching him during his term in government in Alagoas.

The truth is that this fracas has not distanced the generals from Collor. Twenty years ago, when he was a student of only 18, his class at the Yacht Club in Brasilia included a very pretty girl named Lucia, the daughter of the man who is now Gen Antenor de Santa Cruz Abreu, currently serving in Amazonia. Collor often visited his home in Santa Cruz. Recently, a reserve officer in the Navy who is a nephew of the general has been one of the candidate's collaborators.

During a dinner in Rio last Thursday, an admiral on active duty, an outstanding admiral in the reserve, and a businessman—all of them close followers of the candidates' back-room maneuvers in military circles—concluded that if Collor is elected, the present military commander in the East, Gen Wilberto Luiz Lima, an officer linked with former president Ernesto Geisel, will be the next minister of Army.

This does not mean that Lima has become a Collor supporter, or that the post is already his. The candidate's economic advisers say that the man who is organizing the PRN candidacy within the Army is the director of the War College (ESG), Gen Muniz Oliva (with whom the candidate has already met once in Rio). These same advisers add that it is Muniz Oliva, an officer who studied at the Sorbonne, is a friend of former minister of Army Sylvio Frota, and takes a position to the right of Martins and Lima, who will be Collor's appointee to succeed Gen Leonidas. Oliva is not the favorite of Leonidas for the post (see text below). And the report that Lima is favored for Collor's cabinet is in conflict with the report that he wants a seat on the Superior Military Court (STM).

The contacts made with the team of Leonel Brizola, of the PDT [Democratic Workers Party], are less important and have more to do with the past. Brizola has happy memories of Gen Diogo Figueiredo (in the reserve), the brother of former president Joao Figueiredo. As commander of the powerful Vila Militar in the period when the PDT candidate was governor in Rio, Diogo unfailingly treated Brizola with the courtesy his post merited.

After the PDT emerged from the municipal elections in an excellent position, the Brizola faction was besieged by military officers, and businessmen who were their friends, connected with former president Figueiredo. This was the case with Maj Dias Dourado (in the reserve), a former adviser to the Office of the Presidency. And this was the case with businessmen Expedito Cordeiro, a friend of Adm Murilo Souza Lima (formerly of the SNI), who sought out Cibilis Viana, a Brizola activist.

Among the military officers on active duty, the possibility that Brizola or the PT [Workers Party] candidate, Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, might become president is not a pleasing thought. The impression that Brizola would be more acceptable because he is allegedly to the right of Lula is unrealistic. The only consensual impression about Leonel Brizola is that he is a demagogue. All that some candidates, such as those of the PDT and the PT, have in their favor is the fact that the military officers aspire to full realization of their profession and their positions, like any civilian. Some days ago, an officer in the naval reserve asked Adm Mario Flores if he would agree to serve Lula or Brizola as as minister. Flores, the leading Brazilian naval strategist at present, made a face, at first, as though rejecting the idea. But immediately afterward, he decided not to close the door, saying "I do not know. I would have to think about that."

Four Naval Possibles

There are at least four Navy admirals in a position to hope for the post presently occupied by Minister Henrique Saboia. The most senior of these officers is the present secretary general of the Navy, Henrique Octavio Ache Pillar, but he is the only one of the choices Saboia would be opposed.

When President Jose Sarney removed Brig Gen Paulo Camarinha as chief of the Armed Forces General Staff (EMFA) last year, Saboia wanted to appoint Ache Pillar to that post. According to the system of rotation among the three branches of the Armed Forces, it should have gone to the Navy, but Ache refused the appointment.

This incident seriously damaged the relationship between the two. However, because of his seniority, Ache remains the favorite, a status he shares only with the chief of the General Staff of the Navy (and cousin of PFL [Liberal Front Party] Senator Jorge Bornhausen of Santa Catarina), Mario Cesar Flores.

The chief of the General Staff is an officer admired for his competence, but despite this, he is not favored by the minister of Army, Gen Leonidas Pires Goncalves. At the beginning of 1987, Saboia chose Flores to serve as the adviser to the preliminary study group working on the Constituent Congress. The other two admirals with a chance at the Ministry of Navy are Renato Monteiro and Jose do Cabo. Both have headed Saboia's office staff. Of the two, there is less resistance within the Navy to Cabo.

A Natural Candidate

The maneuvers at the Ministry of Air as to who will succeed the present minister, Moreira Lima, will depend on what the chief of the General Staff, Brig Gen Cherubim Rosa Filho, does next November.

The natural candidate for the post, he has said that he would prefer a seat on the Superior Military Court, and the next vacancy will occur in the middle of November.

On the top level in the Brazilian Air Force (FAB), there are those who say that Cherubim has opted for the STM as a smokescreen. If that is not the case, his most likely replacement would be Brig Gen Socrates Monteiro, the former commander of the Fourth Regional Air Command (COMAR) in Sao Paulo.

Socrates has some contacts with individuals in the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] in Sao Paulo, including Governor Orestes Quercia, but he makes a point of giving the impression that he does not have great faith that he would be appointed.

In June, in the lobby of the Grand Hotel in Paris, where he had gone to attend the air show at Le Bourget, Socrates told FOLHA that his operational post prevents him from seeking the ministerial post, and that he has not been sought out by any presidential candidate. "I am not agreeing to that kind of talk," he said in conclusion.

Another possibility for this post might be the head of Moreira Lima's office staff, Brig Gen Murillo Santos, but this choice would meet with resistance within the FAB.

The Successor to Leonidas

In the military ministries, the atmosphere of the presidential campaign can already be sensed in the speculation in progress as to who the next minister will be. There are doubts, for example, that the minister of Army, Gen Leonidas Pires Goncalves, will succeed in choosing his own successor. He would prefer to hand on the ministry to the chief of his General Staff, Gen Waldir Martins, but he knows that Martins will have a competitor for the appointment in the military commander in the East, Gen Wilberto Lima, and the director of the War College, Gen Muniz Oliva. This will be especially true if Fernando Collor de Mello of the PRN is elected president.

Martins is a professional soldier who says little but is shrewd and has his feet on the ground. He is an intelligence officer and has friendships with several southern politicians of national importance, for example Senator Jose Richa (PSDB, Parana) and Jorge Bornhausen (PFL, Santa Catarina).

An evaluation of the possible successors to Leonidas might also include Gens Pedro Braga and Decio Machado.

The difficulties experienced by Minister Leonidas are no novelty in the recent history of Brazil. When it came to choosing a successor to President Joao Baptista Figueiredo, Gen Walter Pires, who was then minister of Army, wanted Gen Jose Albuquerque for the post, but the man chosen was Leonidas.

Ministers Cautious

The military ministers are being cautious about their voting preferences. Two months ago, during a dinner at the embassy of the GDR in Brasilia, Minister of Navy Henrique Saboia asked a friend of candidate Aureliano Chaves (PFL) to urge him to obtain the support of former President Janio Quadros.

Saboia likes Aureliano very much. Ivan Mendes, the head of the SNI, for his part, tends toward Ulysses Guimaraes (PMDB). During a dinner with Gen Meira Mattos (in the reserve) in Rio in May, Ivan said he was confident about Ulysses' chances.

Saboia also likes the PMDB candidate, but he was very disappointed when that individual called the members of the military junta in 1969 "the three blockheads." Adm Augusto Rademaker (now deceased), whom Saboia greatly admired, was a member of the junta then.

Minister of Army Leonidas Pires Goncalves, and his colleague in the Ministry of Air, Moreira Lima, note that Mario Covas, of the PSDB, has a substantial reputation for personal honesty, but they both, Leonidas in particular, note his support of decisions they regard as excessively nationalistic at the Constituent Congress.

Hypothesis—Fernando Collor de Mello (PRN)

Gen Muniz Oliva, director of the War College, Collor's advisers say that Oliva is organizing the PRN candidate's campaign in the Army. He invited former minister of Army Sylvio Frota to his installation ceremony at the War College.

Gen Wilberto Luiz Lima, military commander in the East. His name is mentioned much more frequently than before during the discussions as to who will be the minister of Army if Collor de Mello wins the election. He has connections with former president Ernesto Geisel.

Hypothesis—Mario Covas (PSDB)

Gen Waldir Eduardo Martins, chief of the General Staff of the Army. He is a personal friend of Parana Senator Jose Richa, of the PSDB. The minister of Army, Gen Leonidas Pires Goncalves, would like to see him as his successor.

Adm Mario Cesar Flores, chief of the General Staff of the Navy. Regarded as a brilliant naval strategist, he admires Covas for his honest reputation. Minister of Navy Henrique Saboia would like to see him as his successor.

Hypothesis—Ulysses Guimaraes (PMDB)

Gen Ivan de Souza Mendes, minister and chief of the SNI. One of the most ardent defenders of Ulysses Guimaraes at the Planalto Palace, he favors his candidacy. He detests Collor, and the feeling is mutual.

Brig Gen Socrates Monteiro, commander of the Air Force. He has excellent relations with the PMDB in Sao Paulo, but if Brig Gen Rosa Filho, chief of the General Staff of the Air Force, goes to the STM, he will continue to have a good chance of becoming a minister.

Chile

Pinochet Comments on Armed Forces' Role

PY0809024289 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 29 Aug 89 p 7

[Excerpt] Speaking to the newspaper LA TERCERA, Chilean President Augusto Pinochet said: "The restoration of an authentic democracy in Chile is the work of the Armed Forces."

Pinochet stated: "That is the commitment the Armed Forces made on 11 September 1973, and we have achieved it without any postponements."

He also said that the "state terrorism" theory upheld by the opposition "is nothing more than a new awkward opposition tactic to smear the government's actions."

Pinochet said that "the destruction of Chilean democracy culminated in 1973, when temporary party coalitions upholding certain ideologies failed to respect the intrinsic values of our national heritage."

He added: "Undoubtedly, the Armed Forces are democratic; they are permanent institutions of the Chilean democratic system, just as in other contemporary democracies."

Asked about the Chilean defense policy, he said: "In the first place, it should be based on the acceptance, in the true meaning of the word, of the constitutional duties that have been assigned to the Armed Forces and the Carabineros, particularly their duty to safeguard institutional order in the country. The Armed Forces, therefore, are the bulwark of our national values. Moreover, we should ensure and promote the participation of Armed Forces members in the decision-making process in those sectors in which they may make a qualified contribution by virtue of their professional training.

"Lastly, I believe it is essential to ensure the full participation of the Armed Forces in the establishment of defense and foreign policy objectives, as well as in matters concerning their internal organization, so that they may work efficiently." [passage omitted]

Carabineros Involvement in MIR Murder Denied

PY0709144089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Excerpt] In Valdivia, Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange has categorically rejected alleged Carabineros involvement in the murder of MIR spokesman Jecar Neghme. Here is reporter Fernando Riveros with further details:

[Riveros] Referring to the murder of a MIR leader, Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange, attributed to ultrarightist groups the claim that the deaths of each and every policeman will be avenged. Stange has stated:

[Begin Stange recording] I would like to remind the people that there are now three or four groups claiming responsibility for this cowardly assassination. First, it was said that it was an internal problem of Neghme's group, and now there are claims regarding rightist groups. Some people are also trying to blame the Carabineros for the murder, and I categorically reject that there is an intention to avenge the murder of carabineros. Our modus operandi is to detain murderers, to arrest those responsible for any crime affecting Carabineros, and to place them at the disposal of the courts. It is not our way to commit cowardly murder, as was done in this case. [end recording]

Stange also appealed to the citizenry to reject such actions, although they are isolated and do not disrupt the normal development of activities in the country. He also asked the people to inform the Carabineros of any similar action, so that this unit will be able to take the appropriate measures. [passage omitted]

Italian Extradition Request Rejected by Court

PY0709231389 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 29 Aug 89 p C-13

[Excerpt] The Supreme Court has rejected an extradition request submitted by the Italian Government for an Argentine citizen who is serving a prison sentence in Chile for cocaine trafficking. The Italian Government has reported the existence of a group that is trafficking drugs to Italy, using Chileans, Bolivians, Argentines, and people from other countries as "couriers."

The extradition request was made for Victor Peralta Peralta, 67 years of age, who was born in Mendoza Province, Argentina. He was arrested by the civilian police in May 1988 in Santiago.

He was arrested on Miraflores Street on orders from Interpol of Rome, Italy, along with three other Argentine citizens while traveling in a car. The police found about 2 kg of cocaine hidden under the back seat of the car. [passage omitted]

Joint Naval Exercises Held With Argentina

PY0709230789 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 29 Aug 89 p C-13

[By Francisco Eterovic]

[Text] Punta Arenas—The Chilean and Argentine Navies have concluded successful sea rescue operations in the southern seas. A Chilean Navy spokesman has said: "We have fulfilled our objectives regarding the coordination and the establishment of communication links and rescue procedures at sea. We established good team work between the two navies." He added: "We were again able to carry out exercises in a border area and to implement international treaties on rescue operations at sea in areas of intense maritime traffic, such as the mouths of the Beagle Channel."

Political Coalition Denounces Recent Attacks

PY0809014489 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] The Coalition of Parties for Democracy charged today that efforts are being made to create an environment of violence that may obstruct the peaceful process toward democracy.

This is how the coalition reacted to the attack on Jaime Cavada, a leader of the Christian Left, which took place a few hours ago. The coalition condemned this new act of violence by saying that it is an attempt to threaten politicians opposed to the current regime.

Enrique Krauss, executive vice president of Patricio Aylwin's political campaign, said:

[Begin Krauss recording] This unfortunate incident is even more serious because Jaime Cavada has been threatened with death, as have other leaders, by people who say that they belong to the 11 September Command. The coalition would like to warn the country about this event and the murder of Jacar Neghme 2 days ago. Once again we would like to warn that efforts are being made to create an environment of violence that may obstruct the peaceful process toward democracy. [end recording]

Krauss added that the proven democratic and peaceful principles of the coalition gives this organization the moral authority to demand that violence end and that the recent events be investigated immediately, so that their origin is discovered.

Leftist Youth Support Aylwin's Candidacy

PY0809012889 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 1 Sep 89 p C-4

[Text] Yesterday, leaders of the Miguel Enriquez Rebel Youth (JRME), a MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] youth faction, expressed their "conditional support" for Patricio Aylwin, presidential candidate for the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD]. The JRME also announced its first congress, during which new guidelines will be established and authorities will be elected. The MIR spokesmen did not specify the date the congress will be held, but they stated that it will be held in stages. They added that the congress will probably conclude with a plenum in November. The JRME leaders said that now they will devote themselves to campaign work and they expressed their support for "all forms of struggle" to destabilize the military regime.

Lautaro Group Robbery Campaign Reported

PY0709214589 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 30 Aug 89 p C-9

[Excerpt] Three men and one woman, armed with submachineguns and revolvers, have held up the Macul branch of the Bank of Chile and escaped with 889,000 pesos in cash. The robbers escaped in a waiting car without firing a single shot. The robbery lasted only a few minutes and no one was injured.

The police have reported that the robbers are members of the Lautaro Popular and Rebel Forces [FRPL]. This group has committed several similar crimes in the last few months. The group also robbed the San Paulo branch of the Bank of Chile and the Nunoa offices of the Bank of Spain, among other attacks on other financial institutions, and has amassed an amount of nearly 60 million pesos.

The police unit investigating the case said the money will probably be used to finance future FRP', operation and support the long term political-military strategy of the group. [passage omitted]

Shops Raided in Santiago

PY0709230589 Santiago El MERCURIO in Spanish 1 Sep 89 p C-10

[Excerpt] Last night a group of some 30 armed youths who claimed to be members of the "Lautaro Rebel Group," and the "Lautaro Popular Rebel Forces" [FRPL], launched a coordinated operation that did not last more than 5 minutes against three shops in the Nunoa neighborhood. The group also riddled with bullets the front of the Bank of Concepcion branch in the district. The guard, who remained inside the building, escaped uninjured. A report says that the group escaped with goods worth approximately 7 million pesos.

The attacks began at 1945. At this time three different groups of eight men and two women each simultaneously attacked shops at Radio Center and Fotos Center, and a coffee shop. The three shops are located at 3275, 3349,

and 3283 Irarrazaval Avenue, respectively. The first two groups entered the Radio and Fotos centers and threatened employees and shoppers with pistols and submachineguns. They stole video equipment, television sets, and movie and picture cameras. The third group stole money from the coffee shop. Afterwards members of the three groups fired in the air and at the bank which is located near the three shops.

The subversive escaped in two light-colored Chevrolet pickup trucks after loading the stolen goods in them. Witnesses said the pickup trucks had steel plates mounted in the back to protect the criminals who fired from behind the plates and threw pamphlets depicting Salvador Allende's picture and the inscription "Popular September...people's fire...the strength of victory and revolution...Let's take it all! FRPL and MAPU [United Popular Action Movement] Party." [passage omitted]

Mormon Church Bombed 6 Sep; No Casualties

PY0709194589 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] The Mormon Church at 2320 La Rioja Street, Quinta Normal District, was bombed last night. The explosion broke several windows but did not damage the building structure.

Colombia

Students Protest New U.S. Antidrug Measures

PA0709200689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1858 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Thirty men with hoods over their faces are at Santander Square at the National University protesting the measures adopted by U.S. President George Bush. The protesters are setting a U.S. flag on fire, and reportedly are wearing ELN [Army of National Liberation] insignias. We have a report from Liliana Vigolla.

[Begin Vigolla recording] Students protesting at the National University threw rocks during the confrontation with police today. National University students are protesting the measures adopted by the U.S. Government concerning aid to Colombia to fight drug trafficking. The U.S. flag was set on fire at the main square. Policemen are guarding the main entrance on 30th Street. Riot police trucks have surrounded the university campus. Police are trying to quell the protest by using tear gas against the students. Shootings and bomb explosions have been heard inside the campus. At this time, the situation remains unchanged. [end recording]

University Classes Suspended

PA0709230989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2228 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota, 7 September (DPA)—The government decided to temporarily suspend classes at the state-owned National University of Colombia, the largest university in the country, after two devices exploded on campus.

According to preliminary reports, several hooded men occupied a square on campus and began shouting slogans against the United States.

These individuals apparently exploded the devices that wounded two students.

Reward Offered for Information on Cartel Chiefs

PA0709151989 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1405 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Medellin, Colombia, 7 Sep (REUTER)—The Colombian Government has offered a reward of 100 million pesos (about $250,000) to anyone providing information leading to the arrest of two presumed Medellin Cartel leaders.

A televised message says that the authorities will keep secret the names of those providing reliable information on Pablo Escobar and Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, alias El Mexicano. "For the sake of your children, Colombia, and yourself, denounce the drug traffickers," the message says while pictures of Escobar and Rodriguez, two of the five presumed leaders of the cartel, are shown on the screen.

Four telephone numbers are given for those who want to provide information.

The message does not mention the Ochoa brothers—Jorge Luis, Fabio, and Juan David—who are the other three presumed leaders of the Medellin Cartel. No official explanation has been offered for not including the Ochoa brothers in the announcement.

Fabio Ochoa, father of the three brothers, 2 weeks ago proposed a dialogue to President Virgilio Barco to end a wave of violence that was unleashed after the government launched a massive offensive against drug trafficking. The drug barons have responded to the government offensive by declaring a "total war."

This is the second time in 2 months that the government has offered a reward. It had offered a reward to anyone providing information on the leaders of the Army of National Liberation (ELN) guerrilla group.

More on Government Campaign

PA0709192589 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1740 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] The government has begun a campaign of offering citizens up to 100 million pesos for information on the whereabouts of drug trafficking kingpins.

[Begin recording] [Announcer reads message while pictures of drug traffickers Escobar Gaviria and Rodriguez Gacha are shown] Wanted: Pablo Escobar Gaviria and Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha. If you have information leading to the arrest of these criminals, you will receive a reward of 100 million pesos. You may call 201-0108, 277-3000, 237-4700, 247-2300 in Bogota. [end recording]

The objective of the campaign is to arrest drug capos in Colombia. The government has offered 100 million pesos to whoever reveals the whereabouts of Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha and Pablo Escobar Gaviria.

In its television campaign, the government asks citizens to report where the heads of the Medellin Cartel can be found.

Hot Line Established

PA0809015189 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2344 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota, 7 Sep (EFE)—Colombian authorities have established four telephone numbers in Bogota for people to give information, without identifying themselves and without cost, about Pablo Escobar Gaviria and Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, two of the top leaders of the "Medellin Cartel."

A National Police spokesman has told EFE that "these telephone lines are being handled with great secrecy for security reasons." He added that they are assigned to the National Police and the Administrative Security Department.

On each line, a very pleasant female voice answers: "Direct line, good evening," and immediately leaves it up to the caller to pursue the conversation.

This is not a recording, but an operator whose task is to receive information about the drug lords, to use psychology to help the caller, and to request the maximum amount of information possible.

The National Police spokesman told EFE that because of the security with which these lines are being handled and the type of information being received, no report has been prepared as yet on the total number of calls received or the results of the information provided.

Since the night of 6 September, Colombians have been seeing on their television screens an announcement that says: "Wanted" over the photographs of Escobar Gaviria and Rodriguez Gacha. Under the photographs are four telephone numbers that can be called to give information. Other ads read: "Report," "Denounce," "Cooperate," "For your children's sake," and "Denounce the drug traffickers."

If information received leads to the capture of Escobar or Rodriguez Gacha, the informer will receive a reward of 100 million pesos ($250,000).

Police Arrest Drug Lord Escobar Gaviria's Pilot

PA0809040689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0230 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] The police are continuing to score against drug traffickers and alleged assassins. In the past few hours Antioquia authorities detained Nicolas Gonzalez Cardona, who is linked to the Medellin Cartel as a pilot for Pablo Escobar Gaviria. Gonzalez is also suspected of having participated in the murder of Colonel Valdemar Franklin Quintero on 18 August.

This is the second person arrested in connection with this murder. The first was German Gonzalez Ramirez. In addition, government sources have confirmed that a judge has issued an arrest warrant for Jaime Valencia Martinez, the person who allegedly masterminded the attack on Senator Luis Carlos Galan Sarmiento.

Mayors Oppose Order Appointing Military Mayors

PA0709175089 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Telephone interview with Cucuta Mayor Margarita Silva Uribe and Armenia Mayor Favio Arias Velez by unidentified station reporters—live]

[Excerpts] [First reporter] Social Conservative Party lawmakers in Huila Department labeled unconstitutional the decree establishing the appointment of military mayors to replace elected mayors in areas where there are disturbances of public order. The Huila political leaders felt the Supreme Court of Justice must rule on the legality of the disposition in Decree No 2013 of 5 September [date as heard]. Former Justice Minister Pedro Andrade Manrique termed the measure hasty, because an elected official cannot be replaced through a mere decree.

[Second reporter] One of the most controversial issues today is the government's decision to issue Decree No 2013, establishing that the president or his area delegates—I understand this to mean the heads of intendancies, commissioners, and governors—can replace an elected mayor with a military mayor. They may do so after obtaining the National Security Council's authorization. This applies to places or municipalities where there is considerable disruption of public order. Can the president change a mayor neither he nor anyone in the government has appointed, since that mayor was elected by the people? That is the question posed by supporters and foes of this measure. We begin our talk with the country's mayors. Here is Cucuta Mayor Margarita Silva Uribe.

Is the government violating the law by trying to impose military mayors in some cases?

[Silva] Hearing your comments, it seems to me that we are experiencing a delicate situation. You rightly pointed out that we do not have total chaos or war. That is why I feel this is an extreme measure outside the Constitution and regulations that amended the process to elect mayors through popular elections. I really feel this is an extreme measure that the government may adopt after a series of steps. This measure must be amended because it violates the law. This measure can only be implemented if the mayor elected by the people resigns and the political leaders who support him do not want to submit the name of anyone to replace him. An additional measure must be taken to prevent violation of the Constitution. [passage omitted]

[First reporter] Controversial Decree No 2013 states that the Attorney General or officials of the National Security Council must first issue a ruling on each municipality. It also establishes that the affected mayor is only temporarily removed.

[Second reporter] Until order is restored. The decree reads: The National Security Council will meet, summoned by the government, concerning municipalities where public order is especially disrupted. The government asks the council: What do you think of such and such municipality? The government presents its evidence. Then the Council will decide. If it decides to go ahead with the measure, the town's elected mayor will be temporarily replaced by a military mayor until order is restored. [passage omitted]

Here is Armenia Liberal Mayor Favio Arias Velez on the telephone. Good morning Mayor Arias. Thank you for accepting our call here in Bogota. How do you feel about the government measure ordering the removal of elected mayors for military mayors, in specific cases that are related to the public order situation?

[Arias] Thank you for being kind enough to interview me. Last night I learned of the presidential decree on television. It removes elected mayors for military mayors in special cases that warrant it. I do not like it at all. I see no reason for it. If the people of this country are allowed to choose their own officials, why not let these officials fulfill this sacred mission with sufficient civic and moral strength. This mission reaffirms our democratic commitment. Based on what I heard on television, I have another reason to feel the president's idea is not valid. I very much admire the president. He said that mayors who, for one reason or another are removed, will still be paid or will be assigned another post. I do not think this makes sense. Municipalities are not a prize or a haven for bureaucrats. Right now, municipalities are places for capable community leaders to further their community and seek development of our beloved country.

Military Mayor Appointed

PA0709195189 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1733 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Report by Carlos Arturo Paez]

[Text] A conflict between directly elected Colombian mayors and the Colombian Government has surfaced.

Decree 2013, which allows the government to replace civilian mayors of cities where there are public order disturbances with military mayors, has caused conflicting reactions in the country.

[Begin recording] [Defense Minister Oscar Botero] We are ready to serve throughout the country. We are ready to occupy any post in which the government believes we can serve more efficiently.

[Unidentified speaker] In my opinion, the decree is unconstitutional, because a public official can only be replaced if he of she has committed a crime or has violated the law in some respect. Presently, mayors are being replaced without even having been charged with bad behavior. [end recording]

Beginning today, the Colombian Supreme Court has 40 days to determine whether this is a constitutional decree or not. The truth is that the government has already taken the first step. Through Decree 01877 issued on 6 September, the government replaced current Boyaca Port Mayor Marino Estrada with Army Major Alvaro Matayana, a 1st Infantry Brigade officer.

A high-ranking Government Ministry source told this newscast that the new government decree is based on the need to make some municipal mayors, especially those of the Middle Magdalena region, abide by the regulations decreed by the government concerning the struggle against self-defense groups, murderers, and drug traffickers.

Medellin Mayor Against Decree

PA0709210889 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1735 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] One of the first to react against the appointment of military mayors to control public order in stricken areas was Medellin Mayor Juan Gomez Martinez, who said today: No one will remove me from this post.

[Begin recording] [Gomez Martinez] Frankly speaking, I believe that the president is violating the Constitution. That is very clear.

[Reporter] Should the measure be implemented in Medellin, would you abide by it?

[Gomez Martinez] No, definitely not, because it is against the Constitution and I cannot permit violations of the Constitution. I want this to be clear: I will continue to be Medellin's mayor because I respect the Constitution and laws and because I am implementing my duties. As long as there is no legal justification to remove me

from my post. I will remain here. Only the people can remove me from this post. [end recording]

Government Abolishes Decree

PA0809000989 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 2341 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Report by William Parra from Narino Palace]

[Text] [Words indistinct] Government Minister Orlando Vasquez Velasquez has just announced that Decree No 2013 by which the mayors of those towns where public order was being disrupted could be removed and military mayors appointed in their place has just been abolished by the government. The government is going to issue a new decree strengthening the authority of the mayors and governors. Government Minister Orlando Vasquez Velasquez announced the government's decision to abolish Decree No 2013. Regarding the appointments already made, these will no longer be legal.

Judges To Go to Military Bases

PA0809032289 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Bogota, 7 Sep (REUTER)—The Colombian Government has revoked a controversial decree, issued 24 hours before, that empowered the military to take over the mayors' offices in areas scourged by the violence unleashed by drug traffickers.

In the continuation of its offensive against the drug barons and to ensure the safety of the judges, the government intends to transfer the judges handling drug trafficking cases to military bases, Attorney General Alfonso Gomez Mendez told REUTER.

Gomez said that the plan to transfer magistrates includes 20 or 30 judges handling drug trafficking and key political murder cases.

Regarding the decree annulled today, Government Minister Orlando Vasquez Velasquez said the government thought it "advisable" to revoke what was obviously an "unpopular" measure. [passage omitted]

Asked when the judges would be taken to military bases, Attorney General Gomez replied: "I cannot mention a specific time. We cannot tell the terrorists just how long the judges will be at their present offices." [passage omitted]

Government Minister Comments

PA0809043789 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0230 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] Decree 2013, whereby the government intended to appoint military mayors, was short lived. The decree only lasted 22 hours because the government annulled it. This is a report by Elizabeth Menendez from the office of Government Minister Orlando Vasquez.

[Begin recording] [Menendez] Why was the decree anulled after only 24 hours?
[Vasquez] The government did not intend to punish the mayors. The decree was a public order measure aimed at restoring social coexistence. Despite this lofty intention by the national government, interpretations of this decree that did not agree with the spirit and intent of the measure were voiced. [end recording]

The minister said that additional emergency measures will be adopted in a few hours.

[Begin recording] [Vasquez] These measures will strengthen the functions of department governors, intendants, and local officials regarding public order and police actions. Also, the number of uniformed soldiers will be increased wherever it is required and in accordance with the number of armed men available. [end recording]

Regarding the current Puerto Boyaca and Pacho mayors, the minister said they will continue in office. Presidential hopeful Hernando Duran has praised the government decision.

[Begin Duran recording] I think that when mistakes are committed, it is best to correct them as quickly as possible. [end recording]

Police Chief Sees More Violence by Traffickers

PA0709180489 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 1530 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Bogota, 7 Sep (REUTER)—The Colombian police chief has predicted that violence linked to drug trafficking activities will worsen over the next few weeks, although he stated that the government's unprecedented war against such activities had forced traffickers to halt their cocaine exports.

Police Chief General Miguel Antonio Gomez Padilla, who commands approximately 80,000 men, told REUTER: "We believe there are no cocaine exports at present."

During an interview granted on 6 September, which covered many topics related to the campaign against drug trafficking launched by the government on 18 August, Gomez Padilla said that security forces have made progress in their search for the 12 main drug traffickers wanted by the United States.

Gomez Padilla said that the 12 drug traffickers are in Colombia. He rejected reports that some of them had fled to neighboring Latin American countries.

Gen Gomez said: "I know they are in Colombia. Our Intelligence Department has made progress in the search for them. There are police operations and public force actions designed to search for and arrest those drug traffickers."

Colombian President Virgilio Barco has committed himself to the elimination of the scourge of drug trafficking

in Colombia. The drug cartels of Medellin and Cali provide up to 80 percent of the cocaine consumed in the United States.

In answer to a question as to whether he thought violence linked to the drug problem would increase in the next few weeks, Gen Gomez said:

"Yes, I think so. Insofar as we neutralize their activities, they will react against us. They will do that because terrorist actions do not require the participation of too many people. They only need one or two people in one place to carry out a terrorist action."

The Colombian Defense Ministry reported that over 11,000 people have been arrested and that 346 planes and 464 farms, mansions, buildings, and houses belonging to suspected drug traffickers have been seized since the beginning of the government's campaign.

Gomez Padilla said last weekend that the confiscated properties are worth over $500 million. He did not rule out the possibility of the properties being worth $1 billion.

The police chief, who leads the campaign against drug trafficking, was interviewed in his elegant office located in the heavily guarded Police Headquarters.

Gomez denied that the failure to arrest the 12 main Colombian drug traffickers is due to corruption or leaks within the government.

Gen Gomez said: "Those people have a great ability to move around the country. They have been fugitives for a very long time. They are not moving about freely in the streets. They are fugitives."

Gomez said that the wave of bomb attacks in Medellin over the past few days is the work of drug traffickers, who declared a "total war" against the government and leading businessmen on 24 August. Gen Gomez said that the drug lords would not fulfill their threat of killing 10 judges for each suspected drug trafficker that is extradited to the United States.

President Barco reinstalled the extradiction of drug traffickers on 18 August. That measure had been suspended by the Colombian Supreme Court of Justice in June 1987.

Gen Gomez said that Ana Beatriz Rodriguez Tamayo, another suspected drug trafficker wanted by the United States, had been arrested.

Minister Says New Security Measures 'Permanent'

PA0709195589 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1745 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Report from Congress by Jesus Garzon]

[Text] President Barco's government will make permanent laws of the measures recently adopted based on the state of siege to curb violence. This was disclosed by Government Minister Orlando Vasquez Velasquez during a heated session at the Senate. Government Minister Vasquez showed up at Congress accompanied by eight other ministers to explain the measures that the government has implemented to restore public order.

[Begin Vasquez recording] The National Government has been compelled by the tragic circumstances of the past few days to adopt a number of measures to face this threat. However, it knows that an overall strategy is absolutely necessary to counter this threat effectively. [end recording]

According to the government, this overall strategy is based on three points:
1. promoting international agreements to eradicate the production, consumption, and trafficking of drugs;
2. strengthening justice by imposing severe sanctions;
3. implementing social reforms to eliminate unemployment.

Bomb Destroys Medellin Bank; Other Malfunctions

PA0709162589 Paris AFP in Spanish 0712 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] Medellin, Colombia, 6 Sep (AFP)—Last night a bomb destroyed a branch of the state-owned Central Mortgage Bank in this city. Meanwhile, another explosive device thrown at the state-owned Agrarian Fund, near Itagui Municipality, failed to go off.

The police reported that the first terrorist action nearly destroyed the credit institution located in Guayabal, on the outskirts of Medellin in northwestern Colombia.

The explosion, which caused no casualties, occured at 0130 GMT on 7 September.

Meanwhile, a device made up of 10 kg of dynamite, which was thrown from a motorcycle at a branch of the Agrarian Fund, failed to explode because its detonation mechanism malfunctioned.

The failed action took place in nearby Itagui Municipality, which has been enforcing a curfew for the past 8 days along with Medellin in an attempt to control the deteriorated public order situation.

Beginning tonight, the police and Army will redouble security measures in these two cities, because terrorist attacks, which have been attributed to drug traffickers who are waging a war against Colombian authorities, over the past week have always taken place late in the evening.

No Casualties Reported

PA0709182189 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1736 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Text] A 20 kg bomb went off at a branch of the Central Mortage Bank located in the Belen neighborhood of the city of Medellin last night, only 2 hours before the curfew went into effect.

On this occasion, the terrorists' target was a branch of the Central Mortgage Bank located in the Belen neighborhood. According to bomb experts who work for the Medellin Metropolitan Police, the dynamite charge, which partially destroyed the bank facilities, weighed 20 kg. Fortunately, no one was killed or wounded in this attack.

While this was happening, another dynamite charge was defused at the Social Savings Bank in Itahui.

According to the authorities' report, the terrorist attacks carried out in Medellin over the past 12 days have killed 2 people and wounded at least 20 others, including journalist Bernardett Pardo of Univision Network, who, along with her cameraman, witnessed the explosion of a bomb as they were having dinner at a restaurant.

The property damage caused by all the bomb attacks in Medellin add up to approximately 300 million pesos. Eight people have been arrested and charged with terrorist activities.

During the wave of violence in Medellin, the authorities have defused 14 bombs and confiscated 5 rockets.

Restaurant Bombed

PA0809010289 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0013 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Report by Maribel Osorio]

[Text] Medellin continues to live through a wave of terror. Following last night's attack on a bank, which caused a lot of damage, a load of dynamite was hurled against a police station. Fortunately no one was hurt. However, at approximately 1700 today a bomb exploded inside a fast-food restaurant.

A medium-sized bomb exploded shortly before 1700 at the (?Presto) installations located on [words indistinct] and Playa Avenue. Approximately 35 people were inside the restaurant at the time. A worker noticed a suspicious package under a table where minutes before two men had been seated. After an initial minor explosion, the package exploded. The 35 people had already been evacuated from the building, and only 1 policeman was slightly injured; he was thrown to the ground by the shock wave. The area was immediately cordoned off by authorities while the other businesses closed their doors. It is not known how much damage was caused; however, most of the damage occurred inside the restaurant. The men who left the bomb fled and there are no clues as to their whereabouts.

2 M-19 Members Dead; Peace Process in 'Crisis'

PA0709225089 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2153 GMT 7 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Bogota, 7 Sep (DPA)—The peace process on which the Colombian Government and the 19 April Movement [M-19] have been working since early this year went into a "crisis" mode today because two members of the rebel organization, which was observing a truce, were murdered yesterday.

The announcement was made by M-19 General Commander Carlos Pizarro Leongomez, who said that the government of President Virgilio Barco Vargas must inform the country of its intentions if it is indeed willing to complete the peace process.

In an incident now being investigated, M-19 guerrillas Jairo Arturo Motta [as received] and Luz Mery Garcia were gunned down on 6 September by unidentified persons while riding a bus headed for Cali, in the country's southwest.

The two rebels killed lived at the "Peace Village," where several M-19 columns were housed to facilitate a direct dialogue with the government. [passage omitted]

M-19 Leader: Government to Blame

PA0809041589 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0230 GMT 8 Sep 89

[Text] With the death of guerrilla Said Hurtado Motta [as heard] and Luz Mery Garcia, a resident of Santo Domingo who owned a grocery store, the number of M-19 [19 April Movement] members murdered has risen to 10 since the peace process began in March.

The M-19's No 1 man, Carlos Pizarro Leongomez, said that peace cannot be accomplished if the organization's members are murdered by government institutions.

[Begin recording] [Pizarro] I am concerned that the M-19 members are being murdered by government officials.

[Luz Amparo Guerra] Why are you sure of this?
[Pizarro] We have to be sure of who is behind this. I know that it is not criminal groups but government groups, and this is worrisome to me. [end recording]

The peace process will face many difficulties and stumbling blocks if the murder of M-19 members continues.

Paper Assesses Drug Trafficker's Assets

PA0809024789 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 3 Sep 89 pp 1, 2-A

[Text] Security organizations continue to be surprised with their findings over the "Coordinadora Empresarial Ltd" belonging to Jose Gonzalo Gacha, "El Mexicano," which operated on the seventh floor of the Davivienda building, right in Bogota's financial center.

Among the documents found is a receipt indicating that on 1 Ferbaury 1989, "El Mexicano's" money was used to pay for reconnecting lack of payment.

Despite Jaime Torres Salgado, administrative manager of the Millonarios [soccer team], having said that Rodriguez Gacha was only a club shareholder between 1982

and 1984, the Army found at the Coordinadora Empresarial Ltd offices documentation updated to 1988, which included the 31 December 1987 balance sheet.

According to this balance, Millonarios' assets had a book value of 222,134,897.88 pesos. However, complementary documents set the commercial value at 1.165 billion pesos.

Military authorities found the Millonarios' payroll, each player's exact acquisition value, and their possible current value.

Players Eduardo Pimentel, German Gutierrez de Pineres, Eugenio Hernandez, and Jair Abonia have a book value of 1 peso. Carlos Enrique "La Gambeta" Estrada had been acquired for $58,800, Fabio Calle for 5.6 million pesos, and Ruben Dario Hernandez for 2.75 million pesos.

In "El Mexicano's" files, Ruben Dario Hernandez' current worth is 80 million pesos, "La Gambeta" Estrada 35 million pesos, and Fabio "La Gallina" Calle 20 million pesos. Gutierrez de Pineres is valued at 25 million pesos, Jair Abonia 20 million pesos, and Eugenio Hernadez 3 million pesos.

Coordinadora Empresarial Ltd controlled 34 companies and their monthly payroll amounted to 80 million pesos. Those same offices handled the accounting, auditing, and the inventory of the 77 companies and buildings that have been so far detected by the authorities.

Each of the 34 companies that are part of the Coordinadora had its own board of directors with a director and three alternates, who also acted as directors or alternates in other Coordinadora companies. Each company had its own statutes registered under public deeds and with Labor Ministry-approved rules.

Construction, cattle ranching, buying and selling of vehicles, professional soccer, and the media are branches where Rodriguez Gacha has invested his money. One of the firms is called "Circuito Radial 2,000," and is based in Bogota.

The authorities have kept documents connected with the Club Millonarios and messages sent to their board of directors. Numerous papers tell of the club's movements, selling and purchasing of players with amazing figures used.

At the Coordinadora Empresarial an album was found with diagrams and plans of the following farms belonging to Rodriguez Gacha:

Buenos Aires, Chihuahua, Cuernavaca, Cuernavaca el Juncal, El Charquito, El Juncal, El Guadalito, Jalapa, Argentina, Argentina Dos, La Esperanza, La Sonora, Mazatlan-Jalisto, Michoacan, Primavera Freddy 1-Remolino, Quimbaya, Rancho Hermosillo, La Esperanza, Santa Rosa, Santa Rosa Japala, and Zacatecas.

Among the documents found that are being analyzed by the authorities, there is a receipt for the payment of 22,000 pesos for telephone service for the Guaduas 70th Criminal Court.

"Guaduas, 1 February 1989. I, Casar Augusto Mendez, hereby certify having received from Manuel Mosquera, administrator of "La Freddy" farm, the sum of 22,000 pesos. This sum is for paying telephone 8466267, which is out of service, and belongs to the 70th Criminal Court." Other very compromising and "very revealing" documents, according to the investigators, were handed to the Public Order Court for investigation.

Here is a list of companies belonging to Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha's financial center, which is comprised of 22 offices with seven computers, two microcomputers, and two microfiche screens:
1. Administradora de Inmuebles S.A., Medellin. 2. Agricola Casa-Nueva S.A., Medellin. 3. Agrolacteos de Antioquia S.A. 4. Agrolacteos Don Jaime S.A., Bogota. 5. Agropecuaria Santa Claudia S.A., La Dorada. 6. Alianza de Inversiones S.A., Espinal. 7. Automotores y Maquinaria S.A., Ibague. 8. Circuito Radial 2,000, Bogota. 9. Comercializadora Ganadera del Magdalena S.A., Bucaramanga. 10. Coordinadora Inmobiliaria Ltda. Neiva. 11. Criadero La Chihuhua S.A., Pacho. 12. Ganaderia de Cria y Levante S.A., Ibague. 13. Ganaderias Unidas S.A., Medellin. 14. Inmobiliaria Andina S.A., Tunja. 15. Inmobiliaria El Pomar S.A., Medellin. 16. Inmobiliaria El Rancho S.A., Pereira. 17. Inversiones Ferco S.A., Bogota. 18. Inversiones Macib S.A., Bogota. 19. Inversiones R. Castro e Hijos, S.C., Bogota. 20. Union Comercial del Valle S.A., Cali. 21. Vehiculos Urbanos y Rurales S.A., Cali. 22. Construcciones y Disenos Urban S.A., Bogota. 23. Fundacion Nuestra Senora de Monserrate, Bogota. 24. Ganaderia El Poligono S.A. Manizales. 25. Ganaderia Los Morros S.A., La Dorada. 26. Invernormando S. en C.S., Bogota. 27. Inversiones de los Santanderes S.A., Cucuta. 28. Rodriguez Munoz y Rincon S. Enc. S., Bogota. 29. Continental de Alambres Ltda. Bogota. 30. Inversiones Ganaderas Guarumo, Manizales. 31. Inversiones La Ramada S.A., Bogota. 32. Inversiones y Construcciones Tamesis, Bogota. 33. Inmobiliaria e Inversiones Portugal, Bogota. 34. Bienes Raices Urbanos y Rurales, Bogota.